Saint☆Young Men 9

HIKARU NAKAMURA

...AND...

BOOKS, PAINTINGS, SONGS...

OVER THE COURSE OF HUMAN HISTORY, PEOPLE HAVE DEVELOPED MANY MEDIUMS OF STORYTELLING.

YOU WANT TO PUT ON A PLAY OF THE STORY OF MOMOTARO FOR THE KINDERGARTEN?

A PLAY?

OH! THAT'S GREAT, BECAUSE I ALREADY AGREED!

NOW, AS FOR THE LEAD ACTOR...

I'D BE HAPPY TO DO ANYTHING I CAN TO HELP!

THAT'S TERRIBLE.

YES. APPARENTLY, THE PARENTS WHO WERE GOING TO PUT IT ON...

...HAVE ALL COME DOWN WITH A BAD CASE OF THE FLU.

MATSUDA-SAN CAME TO ME FOR HELP AND BEGGED ME TO FIND REPLACEMENTS.

BUDDHA'S SHIRT: ANANDA

YES, YOU'RE PERFECT FOR THE ROLE.

I MEAN, ISN'T HE SUPPOSED TO BE SOME KIND OF FOLK HERO?

WH-WHAT? WHY ME...?

THE LEGEND GOES...

アナンダ

I THINK YOU SHOULD PLAY MOMO-TARO.

FROM WHAT I KNOW OF THE STORY,

IN FACT, I THINK *ONLY YOU* CAN PULL OFF THE ROLE!

I'M NOT SO SURE THAT BEING BORN OUT OF AN ARMPIT IS GOING TO HELP AT ALL HERE...

HE HAD TO INSIST THAT THE ARMPIT IS STILL PART OF THE HUMAN BODY.

WAAH!

WAAH!

...THAT HE WAS BORN OUT OF A PEACH PIT!

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 58

A Farewell To Acting ヨハネ

JESUS'S SHIRT: JOHN

BUDDHA
A MAN FROM THE LAND OF SANSKRIT, BUT WHO STILL UNDERSTANDS HOW THE *NISHI-MUKU SAMURAI* MNEMONIC FOR SHORTER MONTHS REPRESENTS FEBRUARY, APRIL, JUNE, AND SEPTEMBER. IT STILL TOOK A WHILE TO FIGURE OUT HOW "SAMURAI" MEANS "NOVEMBER."

HOP IN, I'LL TAKE YOU TO THE KINDERGARTEN!

THANK YOU BOYS SO MUCH, I KNOW THIS IS VERY SUDDEN...

MY *MARIO KART* SKILLS COME FROM REAL LIFE, SONNY.

AND YOU CAN DRIVE, MATSUDA-SAN?!

WAIT...THIS WHOLE THING IS *TODAY?!*

SURE THING.

CAN WE SWING BY AND PICK THEM UP?

YES, THEY'RE ALREADY AT THE TRAIN STATION.

IS ANYONE ELSE COMING?

ER, WELL, I REACHED OUT TO SOME...

WERE YOU ABLE TO SCRAPE UP SOME OTHER PEOPLE?

AH! HERE WE ARE, OVER HERE!

THANKS FOR COMING OVER!

THANK YOU, SEI-SAN! I HAD HIGH HOPES, BECAUSE YOU'VE GOT SO MANY FRIENDS.

PLUS, I'M ALREADY IN TROUBLE FOR TALKING ABOUT JESUS-SAMA'S PRIVATE LIFE...

...RIGHT ON TWITTER FOR EVERYONE TO SEE...

WELL, WE JUST HAPPENED TO HAVE AN OPEN SHIFT...

OH, WE'LL BE FINE.

YOU FELLAS ARE PRETTY BIG, TOO... CAN YOU FIT INSIDE?

IT'S PETER-SAN'S GROUP! I'M GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE...

EXACTLY. YOU SHOULD SEE HIS TWEETS LATELY...

THAT'S NOT TRUE, JESUS! PETER-SAN SAYS HE IS!

YOU'RE NOT *ACTUALLY* SORRY.

THIS WON'T MAKE UP FOR IT, BUT I OWE HIM THIS MUCH, AT LEAST...

ANYWAY, TO CHANGE THE SUBJECT ...

OH, I CAN BELIEVE!

YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE HOW MANY NEW FOLLOWERS I GOT...

OH, YOU'LL BE JUST FINE.

YOU BOYS HAVE NICE, LOUD VOICES.

I'VE NEVER ACTED ON STAGE BEFORE. ARE YOU SURE THIS IS GOING TO WORK?

THEY ALL LOOK LIKE THIS!!

The RT notifications on Jesus-sama's tweets are s crazy, both me and my iPh are trembling non-stop.

I want to apologize to him so much, apologize so mu I'm trembling (by Kana Nishino)

GIVEN THAT HE'S TRYING TO FIT REFERENCES TO SONG LYRICS IN 140 CHARACTERS, IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE HE'S THAT SORRY TO ME!!

BUT IS THE SAME TRUE OF ACTING ...?

AND THEY'RE USED TO PUBLIC SPEAKING, SO THEY'D BE GOOD AS HOLY MEN, I THINK.

THAT'S TRUE. THEY PROJECT WELL, BECAUSE OF THEIR EXPERIENCE WITH PREACHING ...

JESUS
A MAN FROM A WARMER REGION WITH TWO HARVESTS, BUT WHO ONLY RECENTLY LEARNED ABOUT SOME HARVEST HOLIDAYS DEDICATED TO HIM-SELF BY WATCHING FOREIGN TV SHOWS.

N-NO, JUDAS, YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG!!

AHA! NOW I UNDERSTAND WHY YOU CALLED ***ME*** OF ALL PEOPLE!

OF ALL YOUR DISCIPLES, I THINK THAT ***ONLY I*** AM CAPABLE OF PUTTING ON AN ACT...

TO ACT OUT A ROLE IS TO LIE, IN ESSENCE ...

STOP IT! I DON'T REMEMBER THAT!

YEAH, YOU WERE A ***TERRIBLE*** ACTOR, MAN...

...YOU WERE BEING SO AWKWARD, WALKING WITH YOUR ARMS AND LEGS TOTALLY IN SYNC... AND YOU COULDN'T EVEN LOOK ME IN THE EYE!

FOR ONE THING, WHEN YOU APPROACHED WITH THE INTENT TO BETRAY ME...

I WOULD NEVER SCREW UP LIKE ***THAT*** AGAIN!!

I GUESS PETER-SAN STILL FEELS BAD ABOUT THAT...

IF I HAD A CHANCE TO DO IT ALL OVER...

WHAT, PETER?

GIVE IT UP, JUDAS. BESIDES, ***I'M THE ONE*** WHO SHOULD FEEL EMBARRASSED!

THRICE I SAID, "I KNOW HIM NOT!"

...TO SUCCESSFULLY CONVINCE EVERYONE THAT I DIDN'T KNOW HIM!!

Huh...? Are you serious...?

I have, like, no idea what you're talking about...

IT'D ONLY TAKE ME TWICE... NO, A SINGLE TIME...

BUT NOW, I'M A REAL PRO DENIER!

LISTEN, I DIDN'T GET TO REHEARSE BACK THEN...

Your eyes were wandering, and you flubbed a four-word line...

NO WAY, MAN. YOU WERE A DEVASTATINGLY BAD ACTOR.

LET'S TRY TO CUT IT DOWN TO *ZERO* TIMES, PETER, OKAY?

I'LL SHOW YOU A DENIAL WORTHY OF AN ACADEMY AWARD!!

AT THE KINDER-GARTEN

WE'RE SO HAPPY TO HAVE YOU HERE TODAY!!

NOTICES

OH, THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH!!

LET'S HAVE YOU WAIT IN THIS ROOM OVER HERE!

HAH. ALL THESE ANGELIC SOULS...JUST THE OPPOSITE OF ME...

OH, LOOK AT ALL THESE ANGELIC LITTLE SOULS. PERFECT FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN!!

...SO THERE AREN'T ANY ON HAND. IT'S JUST MOMOTARO, SO YOU CAN AD-LIB IT!

UM, ACTUALLY, ALL OF OUR SCRIPTS ARE WITH THE PEOPLE WHO CALLED OUT SICK...

OOOH!

AND WHERE ARE THE SCRIPTS?

THE COSTUMES AND PROPS ARE IN HERE FOR YOU TO USE...

DO YOU KNOW IT?

DOES THAT MEAN BUDDHA KNOWS THE STORY? HE IS ACTUALLY FROM AN ASIAN COUNTRY, AFTER ALL...

WELL, KIND OF...

W-WAIT A SECOND, I ONLY JUST LEARNED ABOUT THIS STORY FROM MATSUDA-SAN IN THE CAR!

WHAT, REALLY?!

THERE'S... NO SCRIPT...?!

I'll call you when we're ready!!

OH NO!! HE KNOWS EVEN LESS THAN I DO!!

OHH, LIKE THE TV SHOW!!

THE HAM-HAM FRIENDS!

UMM... IT'S *MOMOTARO THE HAMSTER...* RIGHT?

BUT... THEY'RE ANIMALS...

NOT EXACTLY. THEY'RE MORE LIKE COMPANIONS. PART OF HIS ARMY...

A DOG AND MONKEY ... LIKE, TAKING THEM ON A WALK, YOU MEAN?

OKAY...I THINK I GET IT.

...WHERE A BOY NAMED MOMOTARO TAKES A MONKEY, PHEASANT, AND DOG ON A JOURNEY TO VANQUISH A BUNCH OF OGRES.

...IT'S AN OLD FAIRY TALE...

I THINK YOU'VE GOT IT WRONG. SEE...

NO, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT, EITHER...

WHAT A TRAGIC TALE OF WOE!!

FREAKISH BIRTH...

ALL RIGHT, GENTLEMEN, WE'RE ALL READY!

BECAUSE OF HIS FREAKISH BIRTH, COMING OUT OF A PEACH...

...MOMOTARO CANNOT OPEN UP TO ANYONE BUT WILD ANIMALS!

HE'S AN OUTCAST!!

LET'S ALL BEHAVE AND SIT STILL UNTIL THE END OF THE PLAY!

MO MO TA R O

OKAY, EVERYBODY, IT'S TIME FOR THE STORY OF MOMOTARO!

SHE AGREED TO GIVE US SOME CUE CARDS TO HELP, BUT EVEN STILL...!!

IT'S THE PASSION OF THE PLAY...

ONCE YOU GRASP THE CHARACTER OF MOMOTARO, THE STORY WILL FLOW SMOOTHLY FROM THERE!!

YOU MIGHT BE THE BUDDHA, BUT YOU'RE ALSO SIDDHARTHA, THE TEACHER ...

YOU'LL BE FINE! JUST REMEM-BER...

It tastes good!!

This peach is crazy!!

...BUT I'M THE LEAD ROLE! I CAN'T DO THAT!

PETER AND ANDREW-SAN SAID THEY'D JUST PLAY IT OFF THE CUFF...

MOMOTARO...

HE GIVES HIS OWN FOOD TO OTHERS...

A MAN BORN FROM A PEACH... WITH A STRONG MORAL CORE...

...AND FINDS COMMON UNDERSTANDING WITH ANIMALS...

...!!!

THAT'S RIGHT!! IF I CAN TRULY BECOME MOMO-TARO...

...THROUGHOUT HEAVEN AND EARTH!

CRAAA

HOLY AM I ALONE...

AACK

OH NO, THE GROWN-UP MOMO-TARO'S ALREADY OUT THERE...

CUE CARD

UH, WEREN'T WE SUPPOSED TO START WITH THE DOLL?

I'VE GOT IT... I KNOW MOMOTARO !!

WOW! MOMO-TARO IS COOL!!

TAKE GRANDMA'S MILLET DUMPLINGS— THEY'RE THE BEST IN JAPAN!

UH... HEY, YOUR DANGO !!

TA

THE BEST MILLET DUMPLINGS IN JAPAN...

FORGIVE ME FOR LEAVING ON MY JOURNEY WHILE YOU ARE ASLEEP...

I MUST HEAD OFF TO THE ISLAND OF OGRES...

LEAVE FOR THE ISLAND OF OGRES

OH, WELL...

GRANDPA, GRANDMA ...

AH! HE'S LEAVING... I NEED TO GIVE HIM THESE DANGO DUMPLINGS...

ナイスタイミング

FROM THIS DAY FORWARD, MILLET DUMPLINGS, I DUB THEE, "RAHULA"!

SO IT WOULD SEEM THAT THERE IS A NEW IMPEDIMENT THAT I MUST DETACH FROM AND OVERCOME...

UMM, HE JUST WALKED OVER WITHOUT THE DANGO HE'S SUPPOSED TO FEED TO ME!!

ZSH

ZSH

HE'S JUST MAKING UP RANDOM LINES OFF THE TOP OF HIS HEAD!!

TEK

TEK

TEK

I POSSESS NOTHING ...

THEY'RE ON THE TOP OF THE DESK, *OOK-OOK!*

IF YOU FEED ME, I'LL JOIN YOU, *RUFF...*

GO BACK AND GET THE DANGO!

UH, 'SCUSE ME... I'M JUST A LIL' DOGGY WHO WANTS SOME DANGO...

SWISH

OH! THE PHEASANT!

PHEASANT, YOU GOTTA EXPLAIN IT TO THIS GUY!

WE CAN'T GO VANQUISHING WICKED OGRES WITHOUT THOSE MILLET DUMPLINGS, *RUFF!*

IT IS WRITTEN...

I DUNNO, MAN! WE *REALLY* NEED SOME DANGO!

I HAVE DECIDED NOT TO RETURN.

...I'LL JOIN RIGHT UP, AS EASY AS THAT, *OOK!*

IF YOU GO BACK AND GET THEM ...

...BUT BY EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDETH OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD!

MAN SHALL NOT LIVE BY MILLET DUMPLINGS ALONE...

WE...

UMM...

OKAY, OGRE, YOU'RE UP NEXT!

VANQUISH THE OGRES

...BUT AT LEAST THEY'RE WORKING TOGETHER!

THIS IS ONE WEIRD MOMO-TARO ...

WE'LL FOLLOW YOU FOR LIFE, SENSEI!!

BUM

BUM

LIKE, THE BOSS OF ALL THE DEMONS, I SUPPOSE...

I GUESS YOU'D BE...THE DEVIL?

OH! RIGHT, YOU'RE NOT FROM JAPAN...

I'M SORRY, WHAT DOES THE OGRE DO, EXACTLY?

WELL, IN WESTERN TERMS,

WAIT, THE PHEASANT ?!

ギイイ…
CREAK…

BUT MAYBE IT'LL WORK OUT…

WE TOLD HIM THE TRICK WAS JUST ADDING "OGRE" TO ALL HIS SENTENCES.

JUDAS IS THE OGRE… CAN HE DO THIS? HE SPEAKS SO SOFTLY…

Not that he'll be scary…

SO, UMM…

RUFF! WE MADE IT TO THE ISLAND OF OGRES!

PHEASANT'S AT THE GATE

THE PHEASANT'S SUPPOSED TO FLY OVER AND OPEN THE GATE, OOK!

…ALL YE WHO ENTER HERE!!!!

ABANDON HOPE…

YOU REALLY BLEW THEM AWAY! GREAT JOB, JUDAS!

WHO, ME? IT'S NO BIG DEAL…

OOH…

THEY'RE ALL REALLY INTO IT, NOW!

WAAAH! THE OGRE'S REALLY SCARY!!

BEAT HIM UP, MOMO-TARO!!

AAAH!!!

YOU SIMPLY MADE A GOOD CASTING CHOICE, JESUS-SAMA...

I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO WENT TO HELL, AFTER ALL...

THIS IS MAKING IT REALLY AWKWARD TO DEFEAT THE OGRE!!!

AS A MATTER OF FACT, I DESERVE THIS!!

DON'T WORRY, I'M USED TO IT!!

NOW GO AHEAD! JUST RUN ME THROUGH WITH YOUR BLADE!!

THERE'S THE KIND MOMOTARO!!

IN RETRO-SPECT, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EASIER IF THEY'D JUST WAITED FOR THE PARENTS TO RECOVER FROM THE FLU.

Hey, mister, are those dangos on top of your head?!

Can we have some?!

IT IS NOT MOMOTARO WHO MUST DEFEAT THE OGRE, BUT ***YOUR OWN SELVES!***

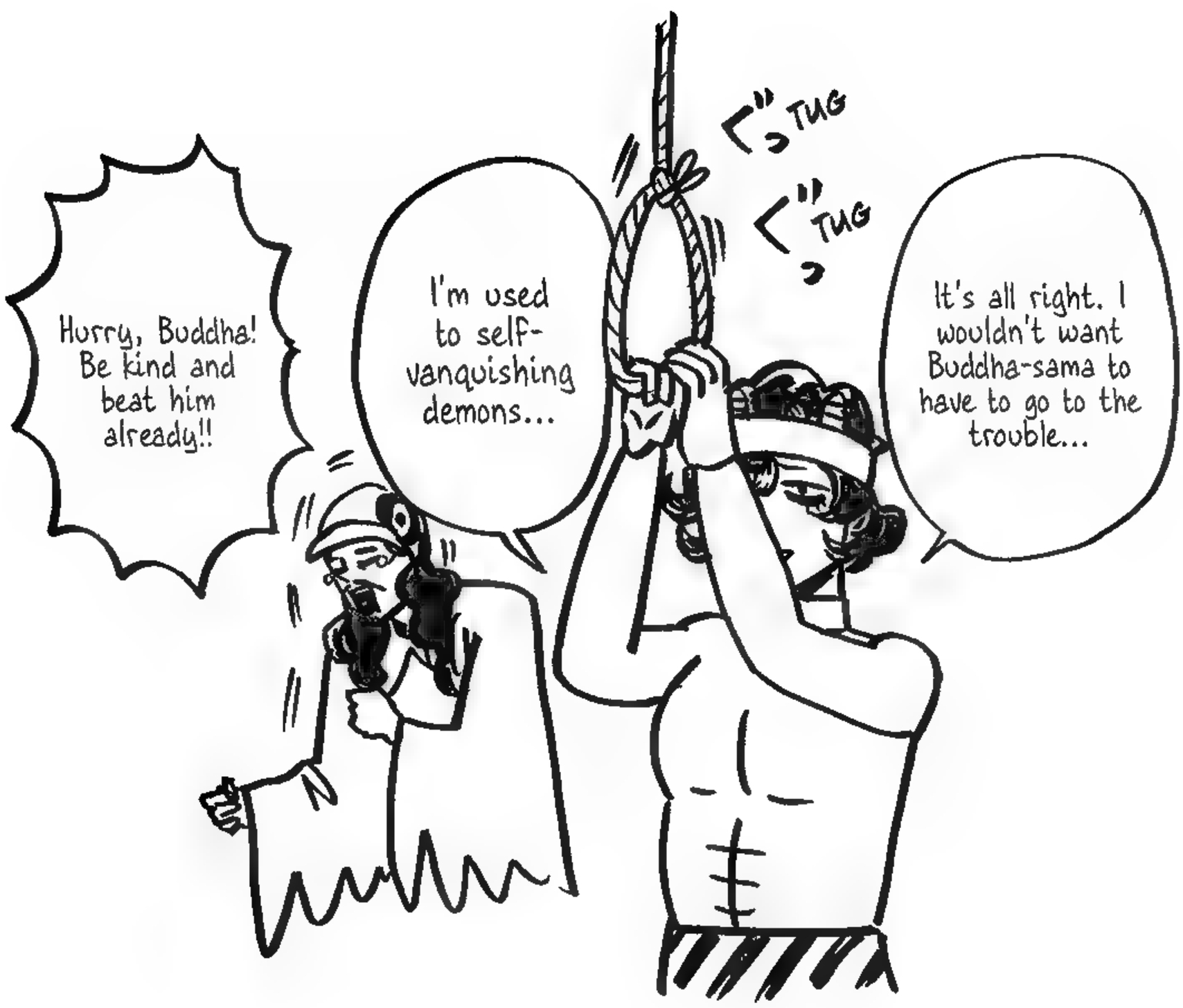
THE TRUE OGRE IS INSIDE OF YOUR OWN HEART ...

BUDDHA, CAN YOU FIND SOME SOFTER WAY TO DEAL WITH JUDAS?!

LISTEN TO ME CAREFULLY, CHILDREN...

If you'd prefer...

...I could punch myself!


Hurry, Buddha! Be kind and beat him already!!
I'm used to self-vanquishing demons...
TUG
TUG
It's all right. I wouldn't want Buddha-sama to have to go to the trouble...

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

CHAPTER 58 TRANSLATION NOTES

Nishimuku Samurai,
A mnemonic for remembering months with less than 31 days, similar to "Thirty days has September..." The phrase on its own means "samurai facing west." The *nishi-muku* (facing west) part can be broken into four characters that are homonyms for numbers: *ni* is two, *shi* is four, *mu* is six, and *ku* is nine, corresponding to those months of the year. The kanji for samurai also looks like a combination of the kanji for "ten" and "one," making it a clever visual reference to eleven, for November.

Kana Nishino,
A pop/R&B singer who got her start in 2008. Her single "Aitakute, Aitakute" (I Miss You, I Miss You) is often remembered as the popular song with the lyrics "I miss you so much, I'm trembling."

Ham-Ham Friends,
Buddha is confusing the story of Momotaro, the boy who was born from a peach, with the children's TV show, Hamtaro, about a group of hamsters. In the original Japanese, Buddha and the disciples make references to lyrics from the opening theme song, and Hamtaro's speech quirks.

Passion,
An archaic definition of "passion" refers to great suffering and tribulation. In the context of Christianity, the word is applied to the final chapter of Jesus's life, including his persecution and crucifixion. This meaning also shows up in descriptions of other martyrs subsequent to Jesus.

"Man shall not live by millet dumplings alone,"
A parody of a famous quote from Matthew 4, in which Satan tempts Jesus while he is in the wilderness. After Jesus fasts for forty days, the devil tempts him to turn the stones into bread, to which Jesus responds, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

Abandon hope,
In Dante's *Inferno*, the inscription on the gates of Hell is the phrase, "Abandon hope, all ye who enter here."

Momotaro,
The actual folklore story of Momotaro is of a boy who is born from a giant peach that a childless old couple find floating in the river (the name Momotaro means "Peach Boy"). Momotaro grows up very quickly, and leaves on a journey to defeat the wicked ogres on the island of Onigashima. He uses the millet dumplings (*kibi dango*) that the old couple give him to recruit a dog, a monkey, and a pheasant to travel with him, and from there, they sail to the island and complete their quest.

SOME OF THE MISSIONARIES OF OLD WERE SAID TO HAVE THIS WONDROUS ABILITY.

THERE ARE PEOPLE WHOSE VERY WORDS CAN OPEN YOUR EYES...

...AND MAKE YOUR HEART SING.

...UM... JESUS...

SURELY, THERE ARE A FEW LEFT IN THE PRESENT DAY, AS WELL...

JESUS'S SHIRT: EAST OF EDEN

SHEESH! YOUR HAIR WAS HIDING THE CORD. YOU WERE FREAKING ME OUT!

I WAS LISTENING TO THE RADIO...

OH! SORRY, I HAD MY EARBUDS IN, I DIDN'T HEAR YOU!

BUDDHA'S SHIRT: DHARMA

OH! ONE OF YOUR DISCIPLES WAS A RADIO LISTENER, TOO?!

NO, THE SIGNALS HE WAS RECEIVING...

I SEEM TO REMEMBER THAT PEOPLE WERE SUSPICIOUS OF HIM.

I WONDER IF THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED WITH MAUDGALYAYANA, TOO...

IS IT THE STORY OF HOW THOMAS-SAN STUCK HIS FINGER IN THE BEEHIVE AGAIN?

WHAT'S GOING ON? THINKING ABOUT A FUNNY MEMORY ...?

HMM?

WHAT?

...with my psychic power!

I can hear Buddha-sama's voice whenever I want...

...WERE MY TEACHINGS.

HE LIKED TO USE HIS PSYCHIC POWERS TO LISTEN IN FROM A GREAT DISTANCE AWAY...

Intercepting signals!

IT'S LIKE A HOLY LECTURE PODCAST... BUT THIS SEEMS MORE LIKE A PIRATED DOWNLOAD TO ME!!

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 59

Comedy Killed the Radio Star

YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE THE CHEMISTRY BETWEEN ALL ELEVEN OF THEM! IT'S SUBLIME!

ES: RAMEN NOODLES, FRIED RICE NOODLES:
ODDIE FOOT TOUR BLOG
Radio
-Amen's "They Were 11!"

R-AMEN-SAN STARTED AN INTERNET RADIO SHOW RECENTLY...

*POPULAR BLOGGER R-AMEN IS ACTUALLY ELEVEN-FACED KANNON.

IT REALLY MAKES ME WANT TO TRY HOSTING A RADIO SHOW SOMETIME...

Ahhh...

AND THE BANTER IS JUST SO STIMULATING ...

CLICK

The only thing you get back is a nod...

IT'S WEIRD, BECAUSE IN PERSON, KANNON-SAN IS THE SILENT TYPE...

THE ONLY THING WE HAVE THAT CAN PLAY THEM IS MY PC!

WELL, IT MAKES SENSE...

I DON'T THINK I'VE EVER HEARD ONE OF THOSE BEFORE...

A RADIO SHOW, HUH...?

MAYBE IT'S FINALLY TIME FOR *MAN PERM AND HIPPIE'S ALL-NIGHT JAPAN!*

GOOD EVENING JAPAN

HANG ON, I'LL PLAY R-AMEN'S "THEY WERE 11!" FOR YOU...

I GUESS IT'S LIKE WATCHING TV BUT WITHOUT THE SCREEN, THEN?

HELLO, ARE YOU IN THERE? IT'S ME, MATSUDA!

Net Radio
R-Amen's "They Were 11!"

...AND PERFORM AS "MAN PERM AND HIPPIE"?

YOU WANT US TO GO ON THE SHOPPING STREET'S RADIO SHOW...

OH... IT'S THE MAN WHO RECRUITED US FOR THE STAND-UP COMEDY CONTEST!

UH, HELLO THERE!

DO YOU REMEMBER HIM?

B-BUT IT'S SO SUDDEN! WHY?

OH, I SEE...

SO THAT'S WHY.

It's a holy place, a holy place.

I pray to thee, I pray to thee.

...AND LEAVING 5-YEN COINS BEHIND IN OFFERING ...

FOR SOME REASON, THEY KEEP DRAWING WATER FROM THE PUBLIC FAUCET THERE...

HE CAN'T TURN DOWN ANY REQUEST.

YOU SURE DO GET AROUND, DON'T YOU?

...THE ONE WITH DJ TACCHI.

I'M THE DIRECTOR OF A RADIO SHOW ...

CRASH

AND HE WAS LOOKING FOR YOU TWO...

HE'S AN OLD FRIEND OF MINE, YOU SEE.

THE TRUTH IS, THERE ARE LOTS OF FOLKS WHO CAN'T GET OVER YOUR ACT...

...TACCHI ...?

DJ...

BUDDHA HOPES HE GETS A KÔJI YEAST STARTER SET FOR CHRISTMAS. PATIENCE IS HIS STRONG SUIT, SO IF ALL GOES WELL, HE MIGHT TRY MAKING HIS OWN MISO.

AH, SO YOU'VE HEARD OF IT?!

NOD

...HUSTLE RADIO??

DJ TACCHI'S ...

RATTLE RATTLE

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!

WH- WHAT IS IT, BUDDHA ?!

ON HUSTLE SHOPPING STREET...

HOW DO YOU EVEN LISTEN TO IT?

YOU HAVE TO BE A REALLY DEDICATED LISTENER IF YOU TUNE IN EVERY DAY!

CLINK

WHAT?! I THOUGHT YOU NEVER LISTENED TO THE RADIO!!

I LISTEN IN EVERY DAY!!

OF COURSE I'VE HEARD OF IT ...

CURRY SET ¥100

But the curry set is so cheap...

BUT THAT ALWAYS LEAVES US WITH WAY MORE THAN THE TWO OF US CAN EAT IN ONE MEAL...

SHOULD I GO WITH CURRY TONIGHT?

AND IT'S ALWAYS RIGHT AT THOSE MOMENTS...

SOMETIMES I'M CONTEMPLATING WHAT TO HAVE FOR DINNER...

So that's where you hear it, huh?

YES, THEY OFTEN PLAY IT INSIDE THE STORES ON THE SHOPPING STREET, ITSELF.

...THAT I HEAR THE DIVINE ORACLE FROM TACCHI!!!

HEY Y'ALL, IT'S DJ TACCHI IN THE HOUSE!

YOU CAN GET SOME NICE MELTING CHEESE FOR JUST 60 YEN!

YOU GOT LEFTOVER CURRY? REMIX THAT SUCKER INTO A BAKED RISOTTO WITH CHEESE!

BUDDHA'S SHIRT: SIDDHARTHA

...A DIVINE ORACLE SAVED MY WALLET, REVEALING THAT YOSHIOKA HAD A SALE ON TOFU...

Yoshioka Tofu Shop has a 30% off sale today!!

Yikes!

!!! GASP

I WAS BUYING SOME GANMODOKI FRITTERS AT THE SUPERMARKET NOT LONG AGO, WHEN...

JESUS HOPES HE GETS A SMART-PHONE GLOVE FOR HIS BIRTHDAY. IT PROB-ABLY WON'T GET USED THAT MUCH, GIVEN TACHIKAWA'S CLIMATE, BUT WHEN HE SEES OTHER PEOPLE USING ONE HE WANTS IT.

YOU KNOW, THAT'S NOT WHAT DJ IS SHORT FOR, RIGHT?

GREAT TACCHI THE DEAL-JUDGER IS THE GUARDIAN DEITY OF ALL THE HOUSEWIVES WHO GET THEIR DINNER INGREDIENTS FROM HUSTLE SHOPPING STREET!!

HOW'S THE EVENING DRINK WITH YOUR HUSBAND GOING?

HAVE ALL YOU LADIES OUT THERE DECIDED ON TONIGHT'S DINNER?

HEY, EVERYBODY, IT'S YOUR BOY, DJ TACCHI.

TA...

TA...

I NEVER KNEW THIS WAS AT THE END OF THE STREET ...

OOH, HE'S BEHIND A GLASS WINDOW!

TOFU

...SO TUNE IN TO HUSTLE RADIO WHILE YOU DO YOUR SHOPPING.

I'M HERE TO ADD A LITTLE SOMETHIN' TO YOUR DAILY GRIND...

THE TRUTH IS, NO ONE LISTENS OUTSIDE OF THIS SHOPPING STREET.

WE GET ONE PERSON WHO REGULARLY SENDS IN LISTENER MAIL, BUT THAT'S IT.

I CAN'T COUNT HOW MANY TIMES HE'S SAVED ME...

HE'S A LIVING GOD!!

WELL, THIS IS JUST WONDERFUL TO HEAR...

I NEVER REALIZED THAT ANYONE WAS LISTENING TO THE SHOW SO FERVENTLY.

TACHI!!!

H-HEY, DON'T PROSTRATE YOURSELF IN THE ROAD!!

OH, I SEE ...

IF YOU'VE ONLY GOT ONE, THAT'S NOT MUCH.

Could be a relative.

LET'S GO TO OUR LISTENER QUESTIONS, SHALL WE?

THEY ASK, "WHY DO YOU THINK PEOPLE SUFFER?"

HERE'S A QUESTION FROM LISTENER, PEN NAME "POM-POM JIZO"...

WHEN I SEND IN MY QUESTIONS BY EMAIL TO DEAL-JUDGER TACCHI...

IS THAT YOU, BUDDHA?

MMM, THAT'S A HEAVY QUESTION! YOU ALWAYS KEEP IT REAL, POM-KUN!

FIRST YOU SAY YOU'VE NEVER LISTENED TO THE RADIO, AND NOW YOU'RE THE GUY WHO SENDS IN A QUESTION FOR EVERY SHOW?

...HE ALWAYS GIVES ME BACK TEN POINTS ON MY POINT CARD!

IT'S THE STARS OF THE SHOPPING STREET, MAN PERM AND HIPPIE!

ALL RIGHT, FOLKS, WE'VE GOT SOME SPECIAL GUESTS WITH US TODAY.

UH, SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE HEAD-PHONES?

?!

I-IT'S N-NICE TO BE HEEE...

SO "RADIO" IS JUST THE DIVINE WORDS I WAS HEARING ...

IT'S COMPLETELY UNFAIR...

I SOUND *SO GOOD*, MY LISTENERS WON'T HAVE A *CHOICE* BUT TO BELIEVE ME!

OH, YEAH. EVERYBODY HATES HEARING THE SOUND OF THEIR OWN VOICE THE FIRST TIME.

WAIT...IS THAT WHAT I SOUND LIKE?!

I HEAR MY OWN VOICE COMING THROUGH THE HEAD-PHONES!

OH... OH, NO...

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'VE BEEN SOUNDING LIKE *THIS* WHEN I PREACH...

I'M A GUY, AND EVEN I GOTTA ADMIT I LIKE HEARING YOU TALK, TOO!

BUT YOU GUYS BOTH HAVE GREAT VOICES FOR RADIO!

I'VE NEVER HAD SUCH SELF-OBSESSED GUESTS BEFORE!!

HEARING MY OWN VOICE, I SOUND EVEN BETTER THAN THE GUY WHO DOES ALL THE COOL MOVIE TRAILERS...

I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN...

...OR SIMPLY PUT UNDER THE SPELL OF MY WONDROUS VOICE!

NOW I CAN'T TELL IF THEY WERE MOVED BY MY TEACHINGS ...

WOW, YOU GUYS JUST SLIP INTO THAT MAN-HIP WORLD SO NATURALLY!

HA HA HA

HUH? UM...

THAT'S RIGHT! YOU'RE COM-EDIANS!

OH! WAIT, YOU'RE DOING A BIT!

THAT'S OUR PRODUCER!

NOW THAT WE'VE INTRODUCED OUR GUESTS, LET'S GO TO THE SECOND SEGMENT OF THE SHOW!

WELL, OF COURSE! WHY ELSE WOULD HE BE THERE?

HUH? FAN...?

TURN AROUND, SO THE FAN OUTSIDE CAN SEE YOU!

B-BUT WE HAVEN'T EVEN APPEARED ON TV YET...

TALK LIKE YOU'RE MAKING PROPHECIES

SINCE IT'S JUST US GUYS IN HERE...

THIS IS WHERE WE ASK OUR GUESTS SOME *WIIILD* QUESTIONS !!

...LET'S TALK ABOUT OUR TASTE IN WOMEN!

PRODUCERS FROM THE HEAVENS DO NOT PLAY AROUND!

IT'S A LIFE WITHOUT LOVED ONES...

WHAT? YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO HAVE ROMANCE?!

I'M SORRY... THE DEVAS WON'T ALLOW ME TO TALK ABOUT GIRLS...

OKAY, MAN PERM-SAN, CAN I ASK WHAT YOUR FAVORITE ANIMAL IS, THEN?!

BUT IF THIS IS THE WORST THEY'RE GOING TO DO, I CAN DEAL WITH IT!!

UGH. I WISH THEY WOULD STOP!

HUH? MY FAVORITE?

WHAT ARE THE ANGELS WHO PLAY MY BACKGROUND MUSIC IN THE HEAVENS DOING HERE?!

GRIN

GRIN

ARE THEY HERE TO MAKE MUSIC FOR THE RADIO SHOW?!

...BUT AS LONG AS HE BEHAVES HIMSELF OUT THERE...

WELL, THAT FREAKED ME OUT ...

...HUH?!

WELL, I SUPPOSE I'D SAY THAT I LIKE DEER...

BADUM-TISH

WA HA HA HA HA!

BADUM-TISH

UM... THEIR EYES ARE SO SOFT AND GENTLE...

AND... AND...

WA HA HA HA HA!

UH, DEER! RIGHT! ANY PARTICULAR REASON?

...?

We have a sound board?

NO, DEAL-JUDGER, IT'S ME! I'M THE ONE WHO'S SORRY!

S-SORRY ABOUT THE TECHNICAL PROBLEMS. I THINK OUR MIXER'S ON THE FRITZ...

SHAAAA-

STOP, PLEASE! I CAN'T TAKE IT!!

DON'T BE SILLY, MY MAN!

I'M HAVIN' A GREAT TIME!

I'M RUINING THE HOLY HUSTLE RADIO SHOW...

IT'S SHEER AGONY TO HEAR A LAUGH TRACK BEING PLAYED WHEN YOU'RE SAYING THINGS THAT AREN'T FUNNY AT ALL!!

...BUT IT'S GREAT FUN FOR ME TO MEET SOME YOUNG, PASSIONATE FOLKS LIKE YOURSELF!

NOW I ONLY USE MY MEAGER GIFT OF GAB FOR THIS RADIO SHOW...

THE TRUTH IS, I WANTED TO BE A COMEDIAN, ONCE...

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO PROMOTE SOMETHING! TELL THE PEOPLE WHERE THEY CAN FIND YOU!

DEAL-JUDGER TACCHI...!

PAT

ALL RIGHT, LAST UP! YOU GUYS GOT ANYTHING TO PLUG WHILE YOU'RE HERE?

ANYTHING AT ALL THAT COMES TO MIND, GENTS!

IT'S A LIVE SHOW, WE CAN'T HAVE DEAD AIR!

UH... THEN...

OH! I KNOW!

OH, I GUESS THAT'S RIGHT...

WE DON'T HAVE ANY PERFORM-ANCES LINED UP ...

WHAT ABOUT YOU, DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY?

THANK YOU, SIR!

WE WON'T WASTE THIS TIME!

Sure, man!

UH, WAIT... PROMOTION? JESUS...

SO EVERYONE SHOULD REPENT THEIR SINS IN PREPARATION OF ENTERING THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN!

WE'VE GOT SOME "END TIMES" SLATED TO COME BEFORE TOO LONG!

THAT'S NOT PROMOTION, JESUS, THAT'S A PROPHECY!!

UM... WELL... TH-THAT WAS MAN PERM AND HIPPIE, FOLKS!

THAT'S ALL WE HAVE TO ANNOUNCE!

APPARENTLY, TACCHI-SAN'S BEEN EATING THEM DURING HIS LUNCH BREAK.

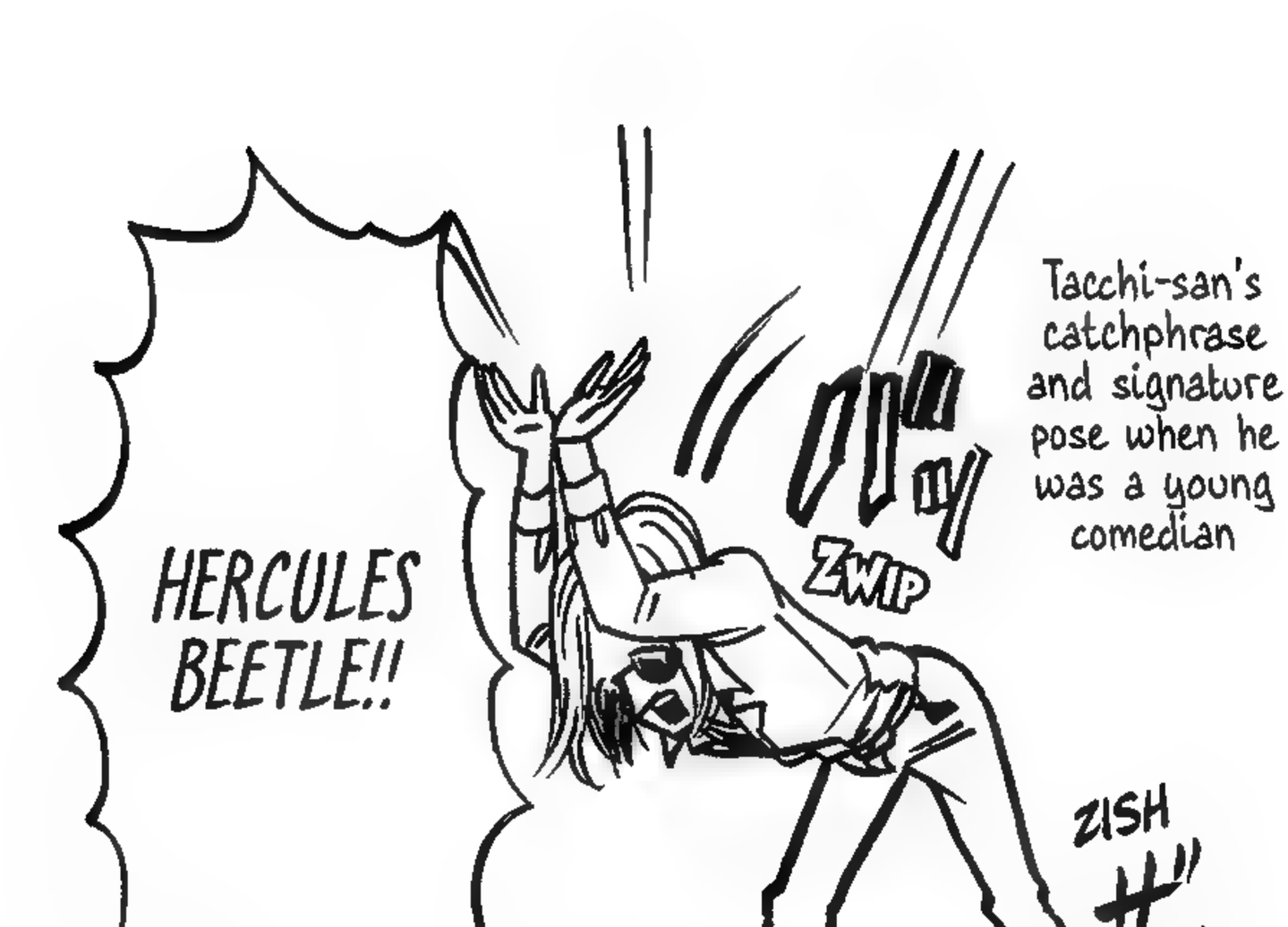
WE'RE SORRY ABOUT THAT...

BUT FOR SOME REASON, THEY'RE ALL LEAVING FIVE-YEN COINS AND DUMPLINGS...

...THE LISTENER NUMBERS GOT MUCH BETTER!

WE'VE HAD MORE VISITORS AS WELL!

THE TRUTH IS, AFTER YOUR APPEARANCE...


HERCULES BEETLE!!
ZWIP
Tacchi-san's catchphrase and signature pose when he was a young comedian
ZISH
ZISH
ZISH

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

CHAPTER 59 TRANSLATION NOTES

Thomas,
Thomas is commonly known as "Doubting Thomas" because he was the most skeptical of Jesus after the resurrection. It was only by putting his fingers in Jesus' stigmata from being on the cross that he was able to believe.

Dharma,
Dharma can means many things in the Buddhist context, most often it refers to the Law or the way of life accordant with the teachings of the Buddha.

East of Eden,
The place where Cain was banished for killing his brother, Abel.

Maudgalyayana,
Out of all of the Buddha's disciples, Madgalyayana was considered to have the greatest mental and psychic abilities. He was supposedly able to speak with spirits and devas, and used his mind-reading powers to derive the proper advice to his students.

***They Were Eleven!*,**
A classic science fiction/suspense manga by Moto Hagio. In it, ten space cadets are undergoing a test on a decommissioned spaceship. But soon they realize that there are actually eleven of them, and they must find out who is the spy.

Ganmodoki,
A fritter made of tofu with vegetables like carrot and burdock and often egg. The name *ganmodoki* literally means "imitation goose" because of its rich flavor. It's often an ingredient in oden, a hot-pot dish typically eaten in the winter.

Jizô,
The Bodhisattva Jizô, or Ksitigarbha in South Asia, is one of the most important and popularly worshipped bodhisattvas. His original vow was to remain in samsara until all beings were rescued from the realms of hell. In Japan, Jizô is most often depicted in the form of small stone statues seen on roadsides and near graveyards. Jizô is also considered a protector of children, especially deceased or stillborn children. Therefore, the statues are often seen adorned in baby bibs and other baby-related offerings.

THE ANCIENT RITUAL OF THROWING BEANS AT OGRES TO DRIVE THEM OUT SYMBOLIZES THE HOPE OF A YEAR FULL FOR GOOD HEALTH AND GOOD FORTUNE...

THE HOLIDAY OF SETSUBUN USHERS IN THE SPRING.

WH-WHAT IS THAT DOING THERE?!

...BUT SOME OTHER ASPECTS OF THE HOLIDAY ARE NO LONGER AS FAMILIAR AS THEY ONCE WERE.

THEN... THEN YOU DID THIS, MATSUDA-SAN?!

WH-WHAT A WONDERFUL IDEA!!

YOU KNOW THAT SAYING, "EVEN A SARDINE'S HEAD CAN BE A SYMBOL OF FAITH."

...!!!

OH, DID IT STARTLE YOU? FOLKS DON'T SEEM TO DO THIS ONE AS OFTEN, ANYMORE...

...BUT I DON'T FEEL RIGHT UNLESS IT'S DONE PROPERLY.

YES. IT'S IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN THE GOOD OLD TRADITIONS TO ENSURE THEY DON'T DIE OUT...

EVEN A SARDINE'S HEAD...

WHAT? YOU ARE?

I'M MOVED BY YOUR FAITH!!

ER, NO, JESUS, SHE'S NOT TALKING ABOUT SOME KIND OF MIRACLE!

?!

...WILL BLOOM IF YOU HAVE FAITH, THEN!! I UNDERSTAND!!

POP

POP

POP

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 59

Fortune's Here! Ogre's Near!

BUDDHA SPEAKING OF THE NEW YEAR, YOU USED TO SEE CARS WITH LITTLE WREATHS AND TANGERINES ATTACHED TO THEIR FRONT PLATES, BUT NOW THAT I'M IN THE MORTAL WORLD, I DON'T SEE ANY AROUND. WHERE DO THEY SELL THOSE?

APPARENTLY THE ODOR OF SARDINES IS SAID TO BE UNPLEASANT TO OGRES.

HA HA. I KNOW, IT'S RATHER SHOCKING.

OH... SO IT WAS JUST A VERY ECCENTRIC FORM OF FLOWER ARRANGEMENT ...

THE POINT IS THAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THINGS YOU CAN HANG OVER THE DOORWAY, RIGHT?

If I ever take one, I have to open the windows!! The smell makes me sick!!

Is that true?

REALLY? BUT LUCIFER SAID IT WAS THE EXHAUST FROM CARS THAT REALLY TURNED HIM OFF.

IF YOU'RE GOING TO BUY *THAT*...

As cheap as it gets!!

LOOK, THIS CUT-OUT MASK IS JUST ¥300!

WHAT? WHY? THOSE ARE MORE EXPENSIVE!!

ACTUALLY, THEY'D BE SAVING US MONEY.

...YOU MIGHT AS WELL BUY SOME SPECIAL GOOD-LUCK SUSHI ROLLS ...

PEEK...

H-HEY, BUDDHA, WHAT DO YOU SAY ...?

SHOULD WE BUY THESE THIS YEAR?

OH, GOOD QUESTION. I'D THINK THEY'RE IN THE SAME CATEGORY ...

ANYWAY, DOES LUCIFER-SAN GET CATEGORIZED AS AN OGRE?

AHA! OGRE MASKS! LOOK, IT'S THE SETSUBUN SECTION!

L-LOOK, I WAS IN A STUBBORN STATE OF MIND LAST YEAR, FOR SOME REASON. I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT THAT!!

Twenty bags of beans for ¥6,000...

IT'S MUCH CHEAPER THAN BUYING "ONE BEAN FOR EVERY YEAR" TO CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAY, LIKE ***SOMEONE*** DID LAST YEAR...

I HEARD THAT SOME PEOPLE SHORTEN IT BY SAYING ONE SOYBEAN CAN COUNT FOR EVERY DECADE, SO...

IT'LL BE FINE! I'M NOT GOING TO DO THAT THIS YEAR!

THAT IS ***NOT*** WHAT SOMEONE WISHING FOR GOOD HEALTH DOES!!

WHO EATS OVER TWO THOUSAND BEANS IN A DAY...?

HE PUT IT ON THE MOMENT WE GOT THOME...

Y-YEAH, SURE...

OH, WELL... I MEAN, I GUESS IF YOU WANT ME TO...

LET'S SEE... SO I SAY, "OGRES OUT!" AND THROW THE BEANS AT YOU, RIGHT?

BUT THIS TIME, WE'LL ACTUALLY HAVE AN OGRE AND THROW BEANS AT IT AND EVERY-THING!

LAST YEAR, I THOUGHT THIS WAS JUST A HOLIDAY WHERE YOU EAT AS MANY SOYBEANS AS YOUR AGE...

OKAY... SO DO YOU WANT TO PLAY THE OGRE?

100% DOMESTIC

FOR HITTING OGRES

FORTUNE

FHOMAKI

GOOD LUCK FHOMAKI

OH, BOY... THIS IS SO EXCITING!!

SCATTER
SCATTER
エヴァンゲリオン
BUDDHA... TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY.
OGRES... OUT...
SCATTER
SCATTER
スッダ
OKAY, HERE WE GO.
JESUS'S SHIRT: EVANGELION
BUDDHA'S SHIRT: SUTTA NIPATA
HANG ON, ISN'T THIS *YOUR* FIRST TIME DOING A PROPER SETSUBUN, TOO?
OH... YOU DON'T HAVE ANY EXPERIENCE WITH THIS. RIGHT...
スッダ
IS THERE A PROPER WAY TO DO THIS?
OH, SORRY. DID I GET SOMETHING WRONG?
IT'S FINE, THEY'RE JUST BEANS! THEY DON'T HURT!
STILL, OVERHAND IS A BIT...
スッダ
YOU CAN DO IT! JUST REMEMBER...
WHEN PEOPLE ARE TRYING TO DRIVE SOMEONE OUT OF SOMEWHERE, THEY DON'T LOB THINGS AT THEM UNDERHAND, THEY HURL THEM OVERHAND.
IS THAT THE WAY THEY TAUGHT YOU TO DO IT?!
PASS
PERSECUTION
NO, I MEAN EXPERIENCE BEING *PERSECUTED* ...
L-LOOK, I KNOW THEY'RE JUST SOYBEANS...
...BUT I DON'T WANT TO SMASH YOU WITH THEM!
エヴァ
LIKE THIS !!
YOU GO LIKE THIS!

...YOU WOULD BE THE ONLY PERSON IN THE ENTIRE WORLD WHO COULD GET RIGHT TO HIS FEET AND CHUCK THAT ROCK!!

IF I SAID, "LET HE WHO IS WITHOUT SIN CAST THE FIRST STONE"...

NOBODY COULD TOSS THEIR STONES AFTER THAT...

エヴァンゲ

...I SAID THAT TO DEFEND HER FROM THOSE WHO WANTED TO HURL STONES AT HER.

WHEN MARY-CHAN OF MAGDALENE WAS ACCUSED OF SIN...

UM... WHAT?

THAT ONLY MAKES IT *HARDER* FOR ME TO DO IT!!

I don't have the right, either!!

スッタニパータ

...BUT NO ONE WOULD COMPLAIN IF YOU DID IT!

NOW WIND UP AND THROW!!

JESUS SPEAKING OF THE NEW YEAR, THEY USED TO HAVE SO MANY COMMER-CIALS FOR DISPOSABLE CAMERAS, BUT NOW THAT I'M DOWN IN THE MORTAL WORLD, I DON'T SEE ANY. WHERE DO THEY SELL THOSE?

AAAH!! AIEEEEE!!!

I BANISH THEE!!

OH, OKAY, FINE. HERE GOES ...

...I'LL JUST TROT OVER TO THE FAR ROAD!

HUFF HUFF

...AND IF WE'RE ASSUMING THE PARKING LOT COUNTS AS PART OF THE APARTMENT BUILDING...

OKAY, I'VE GONE OUT-SIDE ...

I THINK HE JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT LINE...

Y-YOU HAVEN'T SEEN THE LAST OF ME!!

...HMM?

...THE OGRE HAS LEFT THE BUILDING!! WE'LL BE HEALTHY THIS YEAR!!

THERE WE GO! AT THIS POINT, I CAN SAFELY SAY...

ALL RIGHT, YOU LOT! LINE UP!

HANG ON, ARE THEY...?

AND NOT JUST THE MASKS, EVEN THEIR COSTUMES ARE HARD-CORE...

WAIT... DO THEIR MASKS COVER THE WHOLE HEAD?

HEE HEE! I'LL GO AND SAY HELLO...

WANDER WANDER

OH... ARE THOSE THE PEOPLE PLAYING OGRES FROM OTHER HOUSES?

ALL YOU OGRES HAVE NOWHERE ELSE TO GO, SO YOU MIGHT AS WELL SHARE!

RA RA

CUP NOODL

NO PUSHING, NOW!!

ACT LIKE AN OGRE AND EAT WHATEVER YOU GET YOUR HANDS ON!

YOU DON'T GET A CHOICE!

UM, I'D LIKE THE SEAFOOD ONE...

LUCIFER ?!

...THEY'D AT LEAST WAIT UNTIL THE SPRING!!

IF THEY HAD EVEN AN OUNCE OF CONSCIENCE ...

I MIGHT BE A RED OGRE, BUT I FEEL LIKE MY LIPS ARE TURNING BLUE!

IF THEY'RE COLD, WHY DON'T THEY WEAR MORE CLOTHES?!

THESE HUMANS ARE REAL DEMONS, MAN...

DOES THAT MEAN THE REST OF THESE PEOPLE ARE REAL...?

THEY'RE EVEN MEANER THAN US...

THE CHOICE OF DATES JUST TELLS YOU HOW HOMICIDAL THESE PEOPLE ARE!!

DRIVING US OUT INTO THE COLD OF FEBRUARY WITH NOTHING BUT OUR LOINCLOTHS ...

REALLY?! HE'S BEEN PUTTING UP WITH THE COLD ALL THIS TIME?!

BUT YOU KNOW WHAT WE SAY! DEMON FASHION IS ALL ABOUT PERSEVERANCE !!

DON'T COMPLAIN! I'M COLD, TOO...

FOR A DEMON, HE'S SO KIND TO HIS OWN...

AND WHEN YOU'RE DONE...

THANK YOU SO MUCH, LUCIFER-SAN!!

HERE, JUST EAT YOUR NOODLES AND WARM UP!

HMMM...

...AND LEAD THEM INTO ANOTHER WAR AGAINST HEAVEN, IS HE?!

YOU SERIOUS, LUCIFER-SAN...?

HUH ...?!

...I'VE GOT ONE *HELL* OF A PLAN IN MIND FOR YOU ALL...

GRIN

I THOUGHT WE WERE GOING TO SCATTER THE SOYBEANS AND BRING IN THE GOOD LUCK TOGETHER ...

WHAT'S TAKING JESUS SO LONG?

AND NOW WE'RE DONE WITH EVERYTHING ELSE.

WE'LL DO ANYTHING FOR YOU!!

HE ISN'T GOING TO STIR UP THESE RAGING DEMONS ...

YOU'RE NOT SATISFIED WITH LEAVING THINGS THE WAY THEY ARE, ARE YOU?

OH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT US. I'VE COME HERE SEVERAL TIMES BEFORE, REMEMBER.

MAYBE I SHOULD JUST GO. THIS IS TAKING TOO LONG!

THANK YOU FOR THE INVITATION.

ALL OF MY BOATMATES.

HUH? BENZAITEN-SAN... AND...

YOU DON'T HAVE TO THROW BEANS, YOU KNOW. JUST SEND US A TEXT...

Come on in, gang!

W-WAIT, IS THIS JUST BECAUSE I SAID "IN WITH GOOD FORTUNE"?!

SORRY TO VISIT YOU SO LATE... THIS IS FOR YOU...

UM, BENZAITEN-SAN, THIS WASN'T MY INTENTION, I ASSURE YOU!

I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING PREPARED FOR VISITORS!

I'LL HELP YOU WITH THE KITCHEN, SIDDHARTHA.

GOOD LUCK CAME...AND BROUGHT A SOUVENIR BOX OF SWEETS!!

B-BUT IT'S ONLY THOSE TWO!

LOOK AT THESE DELICIOUS ROLLS YOU HAVE!

EHOMAKI

EHOMAKI GOOD LUCK

YES, EXACTLY...

OH, I SEE... WELL, THAT'S A PROBLEM.

BUT ON THE OTHER HAND...

YOU KNOW HOW IT WORKS, RIGHT? YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO EAT THEM ALL IN ONE GO TO BRING GOOD LUCK...

B-BECAUSE THEY'RE EHOMAKI ROLLS...

WHY DON'T YOU JUST CUT THEM UP?

...YOU DEVOUR THE ENTIRE ROLL.

EHOMAKI

WHEN YOU FINISH, YOUR WISH WILL COME TRUE...

...AND WITH A SMILE ON YOUR FACE...

...CLOSE YOUR EYES, DON'T SAY A WORD...

AND THEN YOU TURN IN THE DIRECTION THAT BRINGS LUCK FOR THAT YEAR ...

HU?....

MURMUR...

...UMM...

SOUNDS MORE LIKE A PARTY GAME...

NO... MAYBE HE SAW THAT IN A DREAM ONCE...

WHAT IS THAT...? HAVE YOU HEARD OF THAT?

PSSST

PSSST

THEY LOOKED THE SAME WAY THAT ST. VALENTINE DID WHEN HE HEARD ABOUT HOW PEOPLE USED HIS DAY TO ASK EACH OTHER OUT ON DATES.

AFTER THE LOOKS YOU ALL JUST GAVE ME...

...I CAN'T THINK OF A SINGLE GOOD REASON WHY I WOULD !!

WELL, SIDDHARTHA, IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT TO TRY, THEN I THINK YOU SHOULD DO THAT!

FINE! I'LL CUT THEM INTO PORTIONS FOR EVERYONE, THEN!

A-ARE YOU SURE? IF YOU WANT TO DO IT THE OTHER WAY, YOU CAN...

AT THIS POINT, IT WOULD BE MORE LIKE ASCETIC TRAINING!

KCHAK

OOFH...

B-BUDDHA... I'M HOME ...

THWUMP

J-JESUS?!

WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU LOOK AWFUL!

I GOT CAUGHT BY LUCIFER OUTSIDE ...

...AND HE AND THE OGRES TOOK ME TO THEIR HOME TURF...

WHEN YOU SAY HOME TURF, DO YOU MEAN HELL?!

Y-YES... IT WAS INDEED HELL...

HIS GRAND PLAN...

L-LUCIFER GOT YOU?!

...WAS A TRUE NIGHT-MARE!!

HE SCOOPED UP ALL THE OGRES WHO HAD BEEN BANISHED BY HUMANITY...

...AND WOULD YOU BELIEVE IT...?

...ON AN OUTDOOR COURT!!

HE STARTED AN INDOOR SOCCER TEAM...

THAT'S WHEN I CAME TO A REALIZATION...

...AND IT HELPS OUT WITH STRESS, TOO!!

HE SAID THAT AS LONG AS YOU KEEP MOVING, YOU WARM UP...

WHENEVER YOU SEE A BAAL, LUCIFER WILL BE CLOSE BEHIND.

YES, I UNDERSTAND. I CAN SEE WHY THAT WOULD BE NOTHING BUT HELL FOR YOU.

スダンッ

I COULD NEVER SEE EYE-TO-EYE WITH A DEMON!

FWOOSH
If you need my top, I can give it to you...
It's only a vest, though.
I'm cold, can I go home now...?
THE DEVIL'S WORK

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

CHAPTER 60 TRANSLATION NOTES

Setsubun,
The holiday of Setsubun happens in early spring, usually about the first week of February. In keeping with its proximity to the Lunar New Year, it represents new beginnings and a new year. The most notable custom associated with Setsubun is an enactment of driving out the ogre (*oni*) that represents bad luck or misfortune by throwing soybeans at someone wearing an ogre mask, while chanting the phrase "Out with the ogre, in with good fortune!" from the doorway. As seen in this chapter, there are less common customs such as displaying holly leaves adorned with the head of a sardine on the doorway to drive off ogres, due to the holly branch's thorns and the odor of the fish. This led to the phrase "Even a sardine's head can be a symbol of faith," in reference to its meager nature, as the least valuable part of a tiny fish.

Ehômaki,
A customary food to eat on Setsubun. *Ehômaki* means "lucky direction sushi roll," which is meant to be eaten all in one go while facing that year's lucky direction, which is a determined by a cycle of ten different states in *onmyôdô* (literally, the Way of Yin and Yang), a system of cosmology and divination in Japan derived from Taoism, Buddhism and Shinto. The *ehômaki* is most often made with seven items inside, to correspond to the Seven Lucky Gods of Japanese folklore.

Sutta Nipata,
A collection of Buddhist scripture (*sutta* is the Pali word for "sutra". These are considered some of the oldest of the Buddha's teachings, written by him or his disciples.

Evangelion,
A word for the Gospel, derived from the Greek word for "good news."

Let him cast the irst stone,
A quote from John 8:7. In this story, a woman accused of adultery is arrested. The people claim that the law demands that she be stoned to death, but Jesus says "He that is without sin among you, let him cast the first stone."

Blue ogre,
Different colored representations of ogres symbolize the various negative aspects of the human condition, and thus the symbolic act of throwing soybeans at them during Setsubun represents overcoming these negative urges. Red ogres symbolize greed, blue ogres symbolize anger and hatred, yellow ogres symbolize self-interest and regret, green ogres represent sloth, and black ogres represent suspicion and paranoia.

Boatmates,
The Seven Lucky Gods of Japanese culture are often depicted on a boat together, especially at the New Year. This is known as the *takarabune*, or "treasure ship," and it carries all kinds of treasures that represent good fortune in life.

S-SO THIS IS RYUJI-SAN'S HOUSE...

SOMETIMES, A HOUSE CAN DESCRIBE THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE WITHIN IT...

...MORE VIVIDLY THAN ANY WORDS.

READY? I'M GOING TO RING THE BELL!

WE'VE NEVER BEEN TO ANY MORTAL'S HOME ASIDE FROM MATSUDA-SAN'S...

I'M SO NERVOUS ...

I'LL GO CALL MY HUSBAND!

WELCOME! PLEASE, COME INSIDE!

AAAAH! WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO? WHAT IF THERE ARE SOME RELIGIOUS CUSTOMS IN HIS HOME THAT WE DON'T KNOW ...?

Coming!!

THUMP

THUMP

THUMP

You don't step on the crack of the threshold, right?

I-I DON'T KNOW... I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT RYÛJI-SAN HAPPENS TO WORSHIP!

HOW CAN YOU TELL...?

IT'S OKAY. RYUJI-SAN BELONGS TO THE SAME RELIGION AS MATSUDA-SAN!

BE-CAUSE LOOK ...

WHAT DO WE DO? CROSS THE THRESHOLD ?!

HONEY! THE SEIS ARE HERE!!

While she's not looking!

I-I DON'T KNOW ...

AH!

Oh! Anikis?!!

THEY HAVE THE SAME OBJECT OF WORSHIP IN THE ENTRYWAY THAT MATSUDA-SAN HAS ON TOP OF HER TV!

AS TVS HAVE GOTTEN THINNER, IN-HOME SHRINES HAVE MIGRATED TO THE ENTRYWAY.

YOU'RE RIGHT... THEY MUST BE WORSHIPPERS OF BEARISM!

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 61

The Road to Hina-dan

BUDDHA THE APPROACH OF SPRING IS NICE, BUT HE WORRIES THAT HE'S MORE LIKELY TO SUFFER FROM POLLEN ALLERGIES THAN JESUS.

BUDDHA! JESUS! WELCOME!

PLEASE, COME IN!!

SORRY TO BE SUCH AN UGLY MESS TODAY!!

WE TOLD HER SHE COULD INVITE SOME FRIENDS OVER, AND SHE ASKED FOR YOU TWO.

AIKO'S THE STAR OF THIS HOLIDAY, AFTER ALL!

I'm a princess!

OH, AIKO-CHAN! YOU LOOK SO ADORABLE!

THE ARRANGE-MENT IS MEANT TO DEPICT A PRINCESS'S WEDDING CEREMONY.

OH...

I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY SEEN HINA DOLLS IN PERSON.

BUDDHA'S SHIRT: ELEPHANT-TOSSING

LOOK AT THIS! THIS IS AIKO'S HINA DOLL DISPLAY!

OOOH! THOSE ARE LOVELY!

OUR FAMILY REALLY SPLURGED TO BUY THIS DURING MY GRANDMOTHER'S GENERATION.

That's right.

TH... THEN THEY'RE EVEN MORE BEAUTI-FUL!!

THERE IS AN INNER BEAUTY THAT POURS OUT OF THEM!

WHAT A REGAL, REFINED PRINCESS...

...WITH SUCH A SIMPLE, MODEST WEDDING ...

We'll have a quiet ceremony, just family...

SHE CHOSE TO CELEBRATE ...

OH! MAYBE THIS IS LIKE THE SECONDARY CELEBRATION AFTER THE MAIN EVENT?

I'VE NEVER EVEN *SEEN* A WEDDING THAT DIDN'T HAVE AT LEAST ONE ELEPHANT!

WITH ONLY FIVE MUSICIANS FOR ACCOM-PANIMENT ...

I...I SEE... YOU HAVE GREAT AMBITIONS, AIKO-CHAN...

HA HA

BUT I'VE BEEN GIVING UP ON THAT LATELY...

AIKO'S GOING TO BE LIKE THE DOLL ON THE VERY TOP STEP!

I CAN FEEL THE BLISS FLOODING THROUGH ME, JUST FROM LOOKING AT IT.

OH?!

...?!

AH, IF ONLY MY WEDDING HAD BEEN THIS RELAXED AND QUIET...

THIS HINA-DAN STAND REALLY IS GORGEOUS, THOUGH.

BUT...IF YOU WANT TO BE ON THE TOP ROW, AIKO-CHAN...

He can't find a good match?

OH... SO HE *IS* SINGLE, THEN...

...TO BE WORTHY OF SITTING THERE NEXT TO YOU!!

...THEN I'LL HAVE TO DO MY BEST...

JESUS... I FEEL THE SAME WAY...

...?!

象投げ

BUT...

SH-SH-SHIZUKO-SAN! YOU HEARD THAT?!

Aaah!

FOR ONE THING, YOUR AGE! FOR ANOTHER ...

E-EXCUSE ME?! THAT'S A JOKE, RIGHT?!

...WHETHER FIRST ROW OR SECOND...

...THE POINT IS TO CLIMB UP THERE WITH BUDDHA!

SECOND ROW?

What?!

I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT. AT MY AGE, THE BEST I CAN DO IS THE SECOND ROW...

AND MORE IMPORT-ANTLY...

THE TWO PEOPLE ON THE FIRST ROW AREN'T THE HOSTS. YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT?

QUIZ!

...THE SEATING ROWS IN HINAMATSURI HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THE SEATING ROWS OF COMEDIANS ON A VARIETY SHOW...

TH-THEN TELL ME THIS...

Wait a sec!

No Fair!!

...AREN'T YOUNG COMEDIANS DOING ANY CRAZY THING THEY CAN TO STAND OUT AND GET ATTENTION.

AND THE SECOND ROW...

WAIT... WHAT?!

JESUS APPARENTLY THOUGHT THAT IT WAS A HOLIDAY MEANT TO PRAY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMEDIANS.

HE'S NOT.

He's the only barefoot one!!

WHY IS ONE OF THE GUYS ON THE BOTTOM TAKING OFF HIS CLOTHES FOR LAUGHS?!

JESUS THE APPROACH OF SPRING IS NICE, BUT HE WORRIES THAT BUDDHA IS LIKELY TO PUT AWAY THE KOTATSU AS SOON IT GETS WARM.

THAT'S RIGHT. I NEED AIKO...

BUT I'M SURE THAT AIKO-CHAN IS GOING TO LEAD A HAPPY LIFE.

OH MY GOOD-NESS, I HAD IT COMPLETELY WRONG!

A HOLIDAY ABOUT WISHING FOR GIRLS' HAPPINESS ...?

...AND LAND THE RICH HUBBY OF OUR DREAMS!

...TO BUILD UP HER FEMININE POWER...

BEING AWARE OF THE MALE GAZE...

TAKING CARE OF YOUR CLOTHES AND HAIR AND EYEBROWS ...

AH, THAT. YES, THAT'S PART OF A WOMAN'S POWER, TOO...

WH-WHAT'S "FEMININE POWER"...?

I DON'T KNOW, EITHER.

YOU BET IT IS!

IS IT BETTER THAN LANDING AN AIRPLANE, MOMMY?

PERHAPS IT'S THE POWER TO BE CONSCIOUS OF HER APPEARANCE?

WHAT KIND OF POWER DOES A GIRL HAVE TO FIND HAPPINESS ...?

BUT IT'S "FEMALE" AND "POWER," RIGHT?

Reach Enlightenment with Feminine Power!

Take those brows off to get closer to buddhahood than ever!! Rub extra mud on your skin for that nirvana body!

NOBODY NEEDS TO GET THAT EXTREME HERE, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

YES, AND SHAVING ALL OF IT OFF...

...AND WEARING CLOTHES AS RAGGED AND CONCEALING AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE...

OH! I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT! MY MOTHER HAS FEMININE POWER, THEN!

FLOAT ...?

SPECIFIC-ALLY RICH BACHELORS. THEN YOU CAN SIMPLY FLOAT THROUGH LIFE...

WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT IS THE POWER TO GET PEOPLE TO LIKE YOU...

WHAT? I'M CONFUSED, SHIZUKO-SAN. I DON'T GET YOUR DEFINITION OF "FEMININE POWER"...

CAN YOU BE MORE SPECIFIC?

LET ME SEE. IT'S LIKE...

I DON'T SEE IT HERE IN JAPAN...

...BUT IN COUNTRIES LIKE SPAIN, SHE GETS CARRIED ALL THROUGH TOWN ON A FLOAT...

She's a big hit!

I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT A LITERAL PARADE FLOAT!

WHOA!

UM, O-OKAY? WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

BUDDHA, COME PLAY WITH ME! THIS WAY!

SOMEONE WHO'S KIND AND NURTURING AND LOVES CHILDREN ...

...AND WIPE THE TABLE AFTER IT...

HMM, LET ME JUST TAKE THIS DISH TO THE KITCHEN...

...BUT DOESN'T GET INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S BUSINESS...

WHO KEEPS HER HOUSE IN ORDER AND PRIZES CLEAN-LINESS...

WHOA, GREAT! I LOVE YOUR COOK-ING!

They're diamond-shaped jelly treats... ,,,

I MADE THIS FOR YOU. WILL IT FIT IN YOUR FRIDGE?

AH, RYÛJI-SAN?

...SO SHE CAN SEIZE A MAN BY HIS STOMACH...

AND WHO'S GOOD AT COOKING ...

...WELL... IF YOU ASK ME...

ピコーン

STARE...

SO WHAT *IS* FEMININE POWER, ANYWAY?

SORRY ABOUT THAT, JESUS. DID YOU ALREADY FINISH UP?

BUT IF WE'RE BEING HONEST, NO WOMAN ACTUALLY DOES ALL THAT!

- DIVINE MOVEMENT
- ALL-HEARING
- TELEPATHY
- PAST LIFE MEMORY
- DIVINE EYE
- MIND CLEANSING
- FEMININE POWER

...IT SOUNDS LIKE A TYPE OF SUPER-NATURAL POWER...

OOH! THIS JELLY TREAT IS GOOD!

ACTUALLY, I THINK YOU *MIGHT*...

HUH? IT'S SOME KIND OF SUPER-NATURAL POWER I DON'T HAVE?

A...AIKO DOESN'T NEED TO GET MARRIED! SHE'S ALREADY SET FOR LIFE!

TRAINING?!

YOU KNOW, I THINK AIKO MIGHT BE ABLE TO TRAIN WITH BUDDHA-SAN TO GAIN MORE FEMININE POWER SO THAT SHE'S PREPARED FOR MARRIAGE LATER IN LIFE.

OH, WILL SHE BE A NUN?!

SHE'LL STAY HERE AT HOME, AND CELEBRATE HINAMATSURI WITH DADDY EVERY YEAR!!

I...I'LL NEVER LET MY LITTLE AIKO GET MARRIED...

W-WHAT? NO, RYÛJI-SAN, YOU CAN'T THROW AWAY THESE DOLLS!

SHUDDUP! I'M GOING TO THROW THIS GARBAGE AWAY...!

HONEY, WHEN DID YOU START DRINKING TODAY?

STOP THIS, HONEY. IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT...

WAAAH! あ あ あ

...THEN MAYBE SHE'LL ALWAYS BE MY LITTLE GIRL, AND NEVER GET MARRIED!!

BUT IF I NEVER PUT THEM AWAY ...

HINA DOLL

THEY'VE BEEN HANDED DOWN FOR THREE GENER-ATIONS ...

HUH?

AWW, SHE'S SO SWEET...

カアッ BLUSH

SHIZUKO ...

YOU DON'T WANT AIKO TO END UP WITH SOME LOWLIFE, DO YOU?!

THE WORLD'S FULL OF THEM...

...THOSE HINA DOLLS COULD BE HOW YOU AND I ENDED UP TOGETHER IN THE FIRST PLACE.

...AND NEVER GETTING A REAL JOB TO SUPPORT THEIR FAMILIES...

...GIVING THEIR CHILDREN TERRIBLE NAMES...

Why did you leave your wife and child?

Siddhartha-sama...

MEN WHO WON'T HELP TAKE CARE OF THE BABY...

...AND LEAVE THE HOUSE, NEVER COMING BACK...

UM, AIKO-CHAN? LET'S JUST LEAVE HIM ALONE FOR NOW!

OKAY! AIKO WILL MARRY BUDDHA INSTEAD!

YOU DON'T WANT TO ANGER THE HINA DOLLS AND WIND UP MARRYING SOME GOOD-FOR-NOTHING MAN, AIKO!

HA HA... THAT'S RIGHT. YOU'VE GOT TO SHAPE UP NOW...

PEEK PEEK

N-NO, IT'S FINE...

I'M SORRY, ANIKIS... I'M A REAL MESS RIGHT NOW...

OH, GOOD! BUDDHA'S RECOVERED ALREADY...

BESIDES, TRUE HAPPINESS IS WHEN ...

...OR AIKO-CHAN WILL BE MORE WORRIED ABOUT *YOU*, RYÛJI-SAN!

THAT'S TRUE...

SNIFF

Papa!

IF I CAN'T WISH FOR AIKO'S FUTURE HAPPINESS, WHAT GOOD AM I AS A FATHER...?

UH-OH, HE'S NOT RECOVERED! HE'S IN SERMON MODE...

BLAH

BLAH

BLAH

ONE NEEDS NOT WEALTH
OR RENOWN, BUT ABANDO
ONS ALL EARTHLY ATTACHM
ENTS TO REACH A REALM BE
YOND. FOR YOU SEE, THE PR
ACTICE OF MARRIAGE, A MEA
ANS TO "GAIN" ANOTHER HU
MAN BEING, IS IN OPPOSITION
TO ENLIGHTENMENT, AND TH
HE FIXATION UPON WORRY,
EVEN FOR ONE'S OWN CHILD
DREN, IS ALSO AN EARTHLY
CONCERN—

YOU'RE STILL A HOLY FIGURE! YOU HAVE GREAT WORTH!

C-CALM DOWN, BUDDHA!

IN FACT, YOU MIGHT CONSIDER THE OFT-DIVORCED TO BE PRACTITIONERS OF MINIMALISM—

SO AS A MATTER OF FACT, THE PEOPLE THAT SOCIETY CALLS "PERPETUAL BACHELORS" OR "UNSUITABLE FOR MARRIAGE" ARE PERHAPS CLOSER TO ENLIGHTENMENT THAN ANYONE.

WH-WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S THE MATTER?!

AFTER HEARING YOUR TEACHINGS...

象投げ

OH!

W-WAIT, BUDDHA! STOP LECTURING!!

THAT'S RIGHT. RAHULA AND YASODHARA FOUND THE BLISS OF ENLIGHTEN-MENT...

PLUS YOUR WIFE AND SON BOTH RENOUNCED THE WORLD AND FOUND HAPPINESS, TOO...

...HUH?

...HAS RENOUNCED THE WORLD AND BECOME A MONK, TOO!!

...THE EMPEROR DOLL...

THAT REALLY TAKES ME BACK...

I FEEL BAD THAT IT HAPPENED RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THEIR WEDDING ...

IN BUDDHA'S WORLD, IF YOU REALLY LOVE SOMEONE, YOU SET THEM FREE FROM WORLDLY ATTACH-MENTS.

BUDDHA, DON'T EVER CONVINCE PEOPLE TO ELOPE ON THEIR WEDDING DAY AGAIN!!

The wheel of Samsara goes 'round and 'round...

My husband!

I WAS RATHER HEAVY-HANDED IN THE WAY THAT I CONVINCED MY HALF-BROTHER NANDA TO BECOME A MONK IN THE MIDDLE OF HIS OWN WEDDING...

Renouncing the world can be a very contagious idea!
You have to assume that if one person does it, the entire family will follow...
After that...
...all the other dolls started losing their hair, too!!

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

CHAPTER 61 TRANSLATION NOTES

Threshold,
The word translated as threshold here (shikii) refers to the boundary between the outside and inside of the house. In Japanese culture, it is considered a major act to cross the threshold, and stepping on the dividing line itself is a faux pas akin to stepping on the dignity of the home's owners. This is more of a folk superstition or social standard, however, and not a religious practice.

Carved bear,
A kind of folk art most often made in Hokkaido, the northernmost island of Japan, which is much more rural than Honshu and has an image of having more wildlife and open nature. These wooden carvings of a bear holding a fish are a typical souvenir bought when visiting Hokkaido, and have no religious significance..

Hinamatsuri,
A holiday held on March 3rd every year. It's often translated as "Girls' Day" or "Doll's Day." The *hina-dan,* or doll stand, is the biggest aspect of the holiday. The red-carpeted stand has several steps, and depicts a Heian-period (794 - 1185) wedding, with the groom and bride on top (in some cases they are called the emperor and empress) and subsequent levels displaying attendants, retainers, musicians, and so on.

Elephant-tossing,
In his mortal life, Siddhartha was said to have thrown an elephant outside of the city during a tournament. (See Chapter 20 in Volume 2.)

Comedians,
In Japan, comedian-focused variety and talk shows feature what is called *hina-dan* comedians, named after the doll displays of Hinamatsuri, because they are usually seated in two or even three rows opposite from the show's hosts. More popular comedians or celebrity guests are seated on the first row with the most visibility, while the higher rows are dedicated to younger, up and coming comedians who are expected to be more energetic and liven up the proceedings. In the bottom panel, Jesus confuses one of the court ministers with Lucky Ikeda, a veteran comedian and choreographer since the early 1990s who typically wears an elephant toy on his head and is known for teaching new comedians how to come up with physical gags and poses that, when combined with a catchphrase, can capture the nation's imagination and launch them into immediate stardom.

Float,
In Japanese, Shizuko makes use of the term *tama-no-koshi*, which refers to a woman marrying into a much richer family. Literally, it means "jeweled palanquin," however, which is why Jesus confuses it with the *paso*, or religious-themed processional floats seen during Catholic holidays in countries like Spain.

Diamond-shaped treats,
Referring to a custom associated with Hinamatsuri called *hishi mochi*, meaning "diamond/rhombus rice cake." The mochi are cut into diamond shapes and have three colored layers of red, white, and green that symbolize peach flowers, fallen snow, and cleansing new spring buds, respectively.

Minimalism,
The term used in Japanese here, *dan-sha-ri*, was popularized in a 2009 book by Hideko Yamashita. The three kanji used correspond to yoga practices regarding the concept of waste. Respectively, they refer to "cutting off unwanted items from entering," "discarding unneeded things that have been in the home," and "removing oneself from a fixation on objects."

Elope,
In the original Japanese, Jesus makes reference to *Long Vacation*, a mega-hit TV drama from 1996 featuring SMAP heartthrob Takuya Kimura. The lead heroine played by Tomoko Yamaguchi is left at the altar by the roommate of Kimura's character, a pianist. Thrust together by unfortunate circumstances, he convinces her that God has given her a "long vacation," thus beginning their own relationship.

IT CAN GROW STEADILY, DAY BY DAY...

"LOVE IS LIKE A HURRICANE," THEY SAY.

IT'S BECAUSE OF THEM THAT IT'S SO MUCH HARDER TO WIN TICKETS. IT PISSES ME OFF SO MUCH.

UGH. I HATE ALL THESE FAKE FANS.

...OR SOMETIMES, SEEM TO EXPLODE OUT OF NOWHERE.

YOU MIGHT SAY THAT...

SHE MUST BE A BIG FAN OF YOURS!

...SHE'S GOT A WHOLE BUNCH OF CHARMS.

BUT IF ANYTHING ...

OH, IS THIS THAT BAND YOU'VE BEEN OBSESSED WITH SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL?

I see...

THEY EVEN PLAY THEM IN CONVENIENCE STORES, NOW THAT THIS SONG WAS A TV SHOW THEME.

Hmm...

HA HA... DID YOU NOTICE HER CELL PHONE?

FOR SOMEONE SO YOUNG...

Hmm...

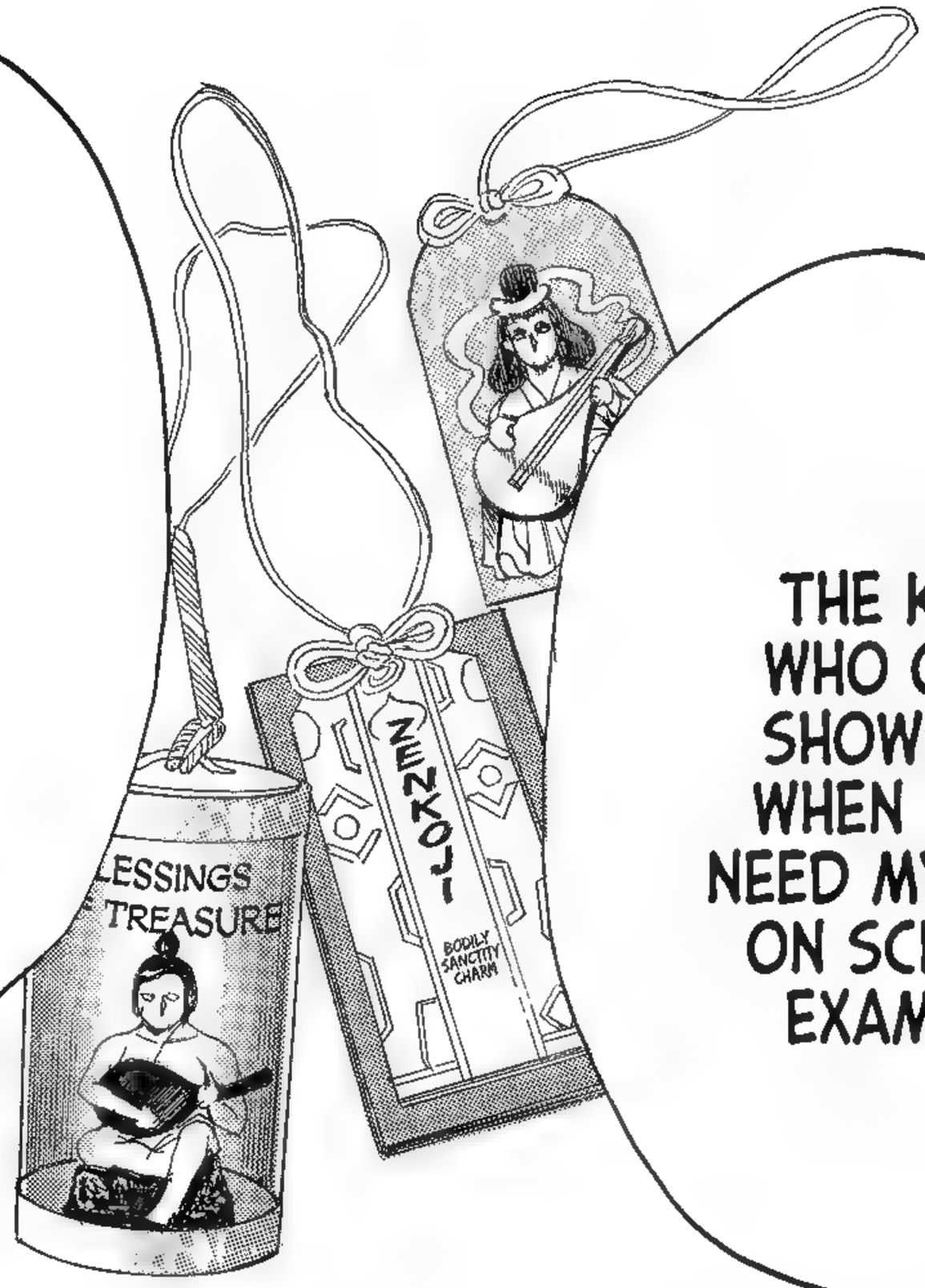
OH! I'LL BUY THEM!!

ANYWAY, LOOK, THEY HAVE THE KIT KATS HERE.

OH, YOU'RE RIGHT... SHE'S MORE FOCUSED ON BENZAITEN-SAN, IT SEEMS.

...SHE'S MORE OF A "FAKE FAN" OF MINE...

THE KIND WHO ONLY SHOWS UP WHEN THEY NEED MY HELP ON SCHOOL EXAMS...



SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 62

Trial Royale

JESUS FEELS LIKE HE'S BEING WATCHED IN TOWN, DESPITE DOING NOTHING TO ATTRACT ATTENTION. THOUGHT THE BEST PLACE TO CHILL WITHOUT STICKING OUT WAS ROPPONGI WITH ALL THE FOREIGN-ERS. BUT HAS HEARD THAT AKIHABARA IS LIKE THAT, TOO, THESE DAYS.

TODAY'S THE DAY THEY ANNOUNCE THE RESULT OF ALL THE COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS.

Kit Kat

Kit Mail

KitKat

Kit Kat

Kit

Kit Sakura are in bloom

NO WONDER THE KIT KAT DISPLAYS ARE SO FANCIFUL...

AH, I SEE NOW ...

THEY ALL LOOK SO NERVOUS, IT'S AS THOUGH THEY'RE FACING THE END TIMES...

THERE'S A COLLEGE VERY CLOSE TO THIS CONVENIENCE STORE, AFTER ALL.

WELL, SURE, BY HEAVENLY TERMS...

BUT HASN'T *EVERYONE* IN THE HEAVENS PASSED THE ULTIMATE TEST, IN A WAY?

HA HA, IT REMINDS ME OF SOME YOUNGSTERS I SAW WITH THAT EXPRESSION UP IN THE HEAVENS...

PEOPLE GET PRETTY WORKED UP ABOUT IT...

AND THERE'S NO SET TIME FOR THE ANNOUNCE-MENT OF THE RESULTS.

...BUT THERE'S ANOTHER TEST TO PASS DOWN IN THE MORTAL WORLD.

IN THE HEAVENS? LIKE ZENNIS PLAYERS HOPING TO GET SELECTED FOR THE TEAM?

AHH, YOU MEAN HOW POOR JOAN OF ARC-CHAN HAD TO WAIT NEARLY 500 YEARS?

But then there was that other girl who got martyred before me, and she's already a saint!!

I martyred myself the right way. I heard God's voice, it wasn't my imagination...

I-I'm fine, I'm fine...

...WHEN THE CHURCH ANNOUNCES A NEW SAINT...

YEAH...THEY SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST SET UP A DATE TO ANNOUNCE THE RESULTS.

Here, Joan-chan!!

JOAN-CHAN HONORARY SAINT BY FIRST POPE PETER

...SO HE GAVE HER A HOMEMADE "HONORARY SAINT" AWARD...

He felt responsible.

PETER COULDN'T STAND TO SEE JOAN-CHAN GRADING HERSELF OVER AND OVER...

BUDDHA FEELS LIKE PEOPLE KNOW WHO HE IS, EVEN IF IT'S JUST HIS IMAGINATION.

JUST AS THE FORTUNE-TELLERS SAID, HE IS THE BEST AT EVERYTHING!

NO WONDER THIS IS THE BOY WHO WILL BE KING OF THE WORLD...

I MEAN, NOBODY WANTS THEIR HARD WORK TO GO UNRECOG-NIZED!

THE HARDER YOU'VE WORKED TOWARD IT, THE MORE YOU WORRY ABOUT THE RESULTS...

THOUGHT THE BEST PLACE TO CHILL WITHOUT STICKING OUT WAS KYOTO OR NARA, BUT HIS POSTERS ARE ALL OVER THE TRAINS AND STATIONS, SO HE FEELS LIKE A WANTED MAN.

...ALL OF MY HARD WORK WAS IGNORED ...

A TRUE PRODIGY !!

...NO MATTER HOW HARD I WORKED AT MY STUDIES...

I MEAN, WHEN I WAS YOUNG...

THAT'S A GOOD POINT...

MODERN WEEKLY

SUNDAY

WHEN I WAS A CHILD, I JOINED THE TEACHERS AND SCHOLARS AT THE TEMPLE IN DISCUSSION...

...AND EVERYTHING I DID, THEY CALLED ME A "PRODIGY"...

BUT WHO IN THE WORLD WOULD EVER WANT TO LISTEN TO ROYALTY COMPLAIN ABOUT THEIR LIVES...?

NEVER MIND... IT'S NOTHING...

?

WELL, IF I COULD COMPLAIN ABOUT SOMETHING NOBODY WANTS TO HEAR ABOUT...

NO, JESUS, I COMPLETELY UNDERSTAND!!

SORRY, I GUESS THAT DOESN'T REALLY MAKE MUCH SENSE...

BUT ACTUALLY, I HATED THAT...

STOP THAT, PLEASE...

I AM NOT A PRODIGY!

IT MAKES ALL THAT HARD WORK SEEM EMPTY...

...PEOPLE JUST WAVE THAT EFFORT AWAY BY SAYING YOU'RE SIMPLY A "PRODIGY."

NO MATTER HOW HARD YOU WORK AT THINGS...

I AM THE *PROGENY*... OF GOD!

I AM NOT A PRODIGY...

HEARING MY PRAISES WHILE AT THE TEMPLE DOES NOTHING FOR ME...

PLEASE, I BEG OF YOU, PAY ATTENTION TO THE DIFFERENCE...

GRR イラ イラ GRR ?? イラ GRR

THE WORDS MIGHT BE SIMILAR, BUT THEY'RE ENTIRELY DIFFERENT!

UM...OKAY... I GUESS THAT DOESN'T MEAN A WHOLE LOT TO ME, EITHER...

IT'S NOT QUITE THE COMPLIMENT YOU THINK IT IS...

YOU MIGHT AS WELL BE TELLING A BRITISH PERSON, "YOUR ENGLISH IS SO GOOD!"

YEAH...BUT WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE AT THE GATE? THEY DON'T LOOK LIKE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS...

LOOK, THE RESULTS ARE POSTED OVER THERE.

WOW, SO MANY PEOPLE ...

I DON'T HAVE THE SPIRIT TO KEEP GOING THIS LONG WITHOUT GIVING UP.

HO HO HO! YOU'RE WRONG, WE'RE JUST ACCOMPANY-ING OUR GIRLS.

THEIR REFUSAL TO GIVE UP IS ADMIR-ABLE!

OH, THEY MUST BE THE FAMOUS RONIN-STUDENTS WHO FAILED TO GET INTO COLLEGE LAST YEAR...

...ESPE-CIALLY RIGHT AROUND ANNOUNCE-MENT TIME...

I UNDERSTAND THAT. EVERYONE HAS TO BE VERY CAREFUL...

...SHE WOULD FREAK OUT AT ANY MENTION OF THE WORDS "FAIL" OR "FLUNK"...

MY DAUGHTER GOT SO SENSITIVE ...

WHAT? WHEN WERE *YOU* AROUND PEOPLE WAITING FOR TEST RESULTS?

AHA! IS THAT SO?

OH! THEY'RE THE COUPLE FROM THE STORE...

MY DAUGHTER SAID SHE WANTED TO GO SEE THE RESULTS BY HERSELF.

THAT'S RIGHT! ENTRANCE EXAMS ARE HARD ON THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

OH, THIS IS NOTHING COMPARED TO ALL THE PAIN WE'VE BEEN THROUGH THIS YEAR.

HERE YOU ARE, ALL OUT IN THE COLD AS A FAMILY ...

AH, YES. TO YOUR FOLKS, THE CYCLE OF SAMSARA IS BASICALLY THE SAME AS BEING A COLLEGE *RONIN.*

YOU CAN'T SAY THE WORD "CYCLE"...

It's a touchy subject.

WELL, NOT TEST RESULTS. MORE LIKE PEOPLE WAITING FOR DEATH...

I BET IT MUST BE REALLY HARD TO REACH ENLIGHTENMENT AS A PELICAN.

AND NOW HE'S A GREAT WHITE PELICAN, AFTER A STINT AS A KANGAROO...

MY FELLOW MONK ENTRAILS-KUN ALWAYS THOUGHT, "I GOT IT THIS TIME!"

AND YOU DON'T KNOW IF YOU'VE REACHED ENLIGHTEN-MENT UNTIL YOU ACTUALLY DIE...

...WITH SO MANY BOOKS THAT WERE EVEN THICKER THAN THE BIBLE...

HIGH SCHOOL STUDY BOOKS

I SPOTTED A TEXTBOOK SECTION AT THE BOOKSTORE...

BOTH THE CRAM SCHOOLS AND THE SUPPLEMENTAL BOOKS COST OUT THE NOSE!

IN ADDITION TO THE EMOTIONAL LABOR, THERE'S THE FINANCIAL ASPECT!

OH, AND THAT'S NOT ALL!

YES, THAT'S JUST IT!

IF ONLY YOU COULD COMPRESS THEM DOWN INTO ONE COMPACT VOLUME...

IT MUST BE HARD TO CARRY THEM AROUND.

AHH, THAT REMINDS ME...

UM, I DON'T THINK YOU WANT PEOPLE USING HIGHLIGHTERS IN THAT BOOK, DO YOU?

I'm just going to write down everything I know.

...IN WHICH THE ANGEL RAZIEL HAS RECORDED ALL KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORLD.

IF ONLY I COULD LEND THESE POOR STUDENTS THE BOOK OF RAZIEL ...

BUT IT EVEN HAS WALKTHROUGHS FOR DAEMON HUNTER IN THERE!

All-in-one!!

REFRIGERATOR MANUAL

PC USER MANUAL

...WHICH IS BORROWING IT TO "CONSOLIDATE ALL THOSE MANUALS"...

BUT I GUESS THAT WOULD BE A BETTER USE FOR IT THAN WHAT YOU'RE CURRENTLY DOING...

WOW! I SUPPOSE THAT HAPPENS EVERY-WHERE.

...THEY TEACH STUDENTS THAT PI IS JUST 3 NOWADAYS, DON'T THEY?

WITH THESE LAX STAND-ARDS ...

THAT'S TRUE. PLUS A Q&A SECTION.

AND IT'S MORE COMPREHENSIVE THAN THE OFFICIAL PERFECT GUIDE BOOK...

WELL, TAKE YOUR RELIGION THESE DAYS...

HUH? WHAT HAPPENS EVERY-WHERE?

DO YOU SUPPOSE THAT EXAMS HAVE GOTTEN EASIER AS THE YEARS GO ON?

YOU JUST SAY A FEW SUTRAS, AND THAT'S ALL YOU NEED, RIGHT?

OK, I'm good!

Many thanks for this blessing...

YOU DON'T HAVE TO RENOUNCE THE WORLD AND UNDERGO TRAINING TO REACH ENLIGHTENMENT ANYMORE...

OH, AND ANOTHER THING THAT REALLY IMPRESSED ME IS...

ER, WELL...

IT MUST BE NICE TO REACH NIRVANA ON EASY MODE...

THAT'S NOT HOW IT WORKS! THE POINT IS THE *INTENTION* YOU PUT INTO THOSE PRAYERS!!

THAT REALLY MAKES THE ENLIGHTEN-MENT PROCESS EASY!

Spin watching TV...

Spin in the bath...

...THOSE PRAYER WHEELS! ONE SPIN OF THE WHEEL EQUALS ONE SUTRA CHANTED!

HMM... WHAT'S TAKING MY DAUGHTER SO LONG...?

IT WASN'T YOUR FIRST CHOICE ANYWAY, DEAR...

WAAAH ...

CHATTER

YAY! LET'S CALL YOUR FATHER!

CHATTER

I PASSED, MOM!! I GOT IN!!

UM, MA'AM...

Sigh...

AND SHE'LL BE ANGRY IF I GO TO FIND HER...

IT'S BEEN THIRTY MINUTES SINCE SHE WENT UP TO CHECK...

MURMUR

#7

SHE WON'T KNOW WHO WE ARE, AFTER ALL.

IF YOU'D LIKE, WE CAN GO TO LOOK FOR HER...

HA HA! EVEN IF THEY'RE MORE FAKE THAN LEGIT!

AND OF COURSE NOT. BUDDHA ALWAYS LOOKS AFTER HIS FANS!

OH... REALLY? YOU DON'T MIND?

...?

#7

MURMUR

WHOA...

YES... NO FAKE FAN WOULD GO TO SUCH LENGTHS...

MURMUR

MURMUR

LOOK AT HER THERE, PROSTRATING ON THE GROUND...

I LIKE, *SO* FAILED THAT EXAM...

I FAILED ...

ROLL

There are lots of people around ...

WHAT NOW? SHOULD WE STICK TO WATCHING FROM A DISTANCE?

AAAAH! C-CALM DOWN!!

I GOTTA DIE! IT'S THE ONLY WAY OUT!!!

I CAN'T. I JUST WANNA DIE.

HRUP

I CAN'T TAKE IT! NO MORE CRAM SCHOOLS!!

WHO ARE YOU?! LET GO OF ME!

SIGHT-SEEING IN HELL IS NOT AS EXCITING AS YOU THINK!!

SUICIDE IS NOT THE ANSWER, MY CHILD!

BUT LISTEN TO THIS ...

ATEP ATEP ATEP

I CAN'T EVEN FACE MY MOM RIGHT NOW. I'M SO SCREWED...

THAT'S A MUCH MORE EXHAUSTING SOLUTION TO YOUR PROBLEM.

...IMAGINE BEING A RONIN OF LIFE ...

IF YOU THINK BEING A COLLEGE RONIN IS BAD...

I SUPPOSE IT WAS RUDE OF ME TO CALL YOU A "FAKE" FAN, WHEN YOU'RE WILLING TO UNDERTAKE SUCH DIFFICULT ASCETIC TRAINING.

LOOK, IF YOU WANT TO START OVER AGAIN FROM THE BEGINNING, THAT'S YOUR CHOICE...

EXHAUST-ING... WHAT?

...FORGET THE CRAM SCHOOL. WHY NOT JUST HEAD INTO THE MOUNTAINS?

...AND YOU REALLY WANT A SHORTCUT ...

UH, DON'T MIND HIM. I SUGGEST YOU SIMPLY GO BACK TO CRAM SCHOOL...

...HUH?

AND IN JAPAN, IN FACT...

FOR ONE THING, THERE ARE NO TESTS TO TAKE IN THE MOUNTAINS.

YES! IT'S A PERFECT SOLUTION!

GRAB

M... MOUNTAINS ?!

OH, HANG ON. IF YOU'VE GOT THE GUTS FOR IT...

...AND YOU, TOO, CAN GAIN THE EXALTED TITLE OF GREAT ACHARYA!!

...ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS TREK 40,000 KILOMETERS THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS IN A THOUSAND DAYS...

OKAY? SO LET'S DO THAT INSTEAD!

UH... BUT...

AND YOU WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT LANDING A JOB!

ONCE YOU'VE DONE THAT, YOU'RE GUARANTEED TO ESCAPE SAMSARA!

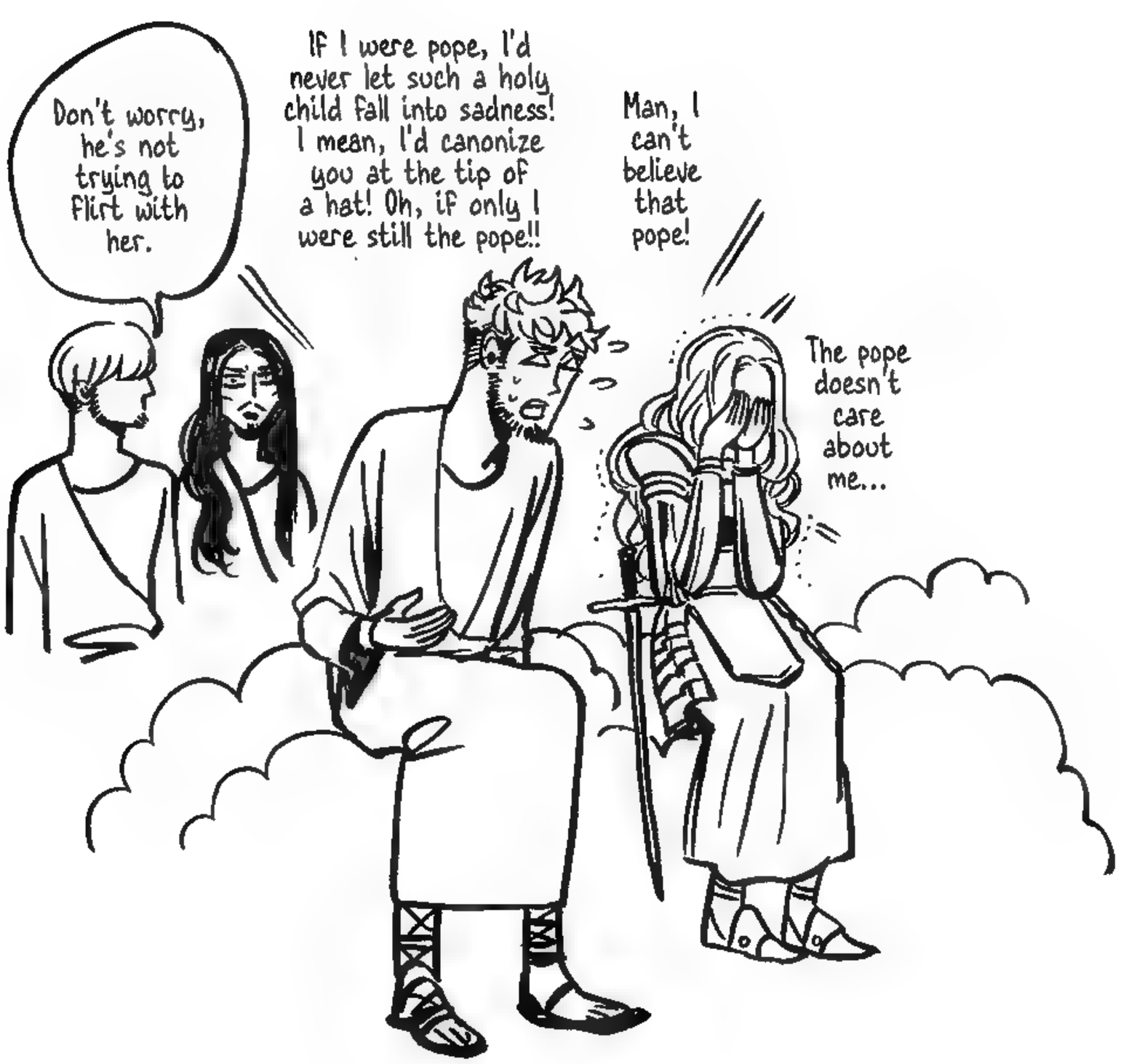
ALL THE RONIN STUDENTS THERE WENT HOME, STUDIED HARD FOR THE NEXT YEAR, AND PASSED THE EXAM ON THEIR NEXT ATTEMPT.

STOP IT!! I'LL JUST TAKE THE TEST AGAIN NEXT YEAR!!

W-WAIT, NO...

I've got scissors.

NOW THAT WE'VE DECIDED ON THAT, LET'S CUT OFF ALL YOUR HAIR...


Don't worry, he's not trying to flirt with her.
If I were pope, I'd never let such a holy child fall into sadness! I mean, I'd canonize you at the tip of a hat! Oh, if only I were still the pope!!
Man, I can't believe that pope!
The pope doesn't care about me...

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

CHAPTER 62 TRANSLATION NOTES

Joan of Arc,
Despite her popularity with the people of France for centuries after her death in the fifteenth century, Joan of Arc was not formally canonized as a saint until 1920.

First Pope,
The apostle Peter was the leader of the early Christians after the death of Jesus, and as such, is often recognized as the very first Pope.

Jesus in the temple,
A story told in Luke 2:41-52. When Jesus was twelve, his family went to Jerusalem to celebrate Passover, as was customary. His parents lost sight of him, and eventually found him in the temple, impressing the scholars with his wisdom. Jesus then wondered why they would be searching for him, when of course, he was "in his Father's house."

Ronin,
While originally referring to a masterless, "wandering" samurai, in modern times the word ronin is used to describe students who have failed to get into their preferred university (by not scoring high enough on the entrance exams) and are choosing to spend the next year studying to try again, rather than entering another school.

Raziel,
The Judeo-Christian Angel of knowledge. In one Kabbalah story, Raziel's book of knowledge is said to be the item given to Adam and Eve after they ate the forbidden fruit.

Prayer wheel,
A custom found primarily in Tibetan Buddhism of writing a mantra on a spindle of metal or other materials. Spinning this wheel supposedly has the same effect as chanting the saying aloud, which was a means for the common people who were illiterate to "read" the sutra. Also known as *mani* wheels.

Acharya,
A term for a senior instructor in both Buddhism and Hinduism. The thousand-day pilgrimage mentioned here is a mountain pilgrimage actually practiced on Mt. Hiei in central Japan, and is one way to earn the acharya title. It is a 30-km round trip that takes about six hours, and is undertaken starting at 2:00 AM while chanting sutras for 100 or 200 days a year until the process is complete.

IF YOU KNOW FULFILLMENT, YOU WILL NOT BE BOTHERED BY MISSING THINGS...

DO YOU SEE WHAT I'M SAYING, JESUS?

TRUE RICHES ARE NOT MEASURED IN WEALTH, BUT FULFILLMENT.

AND WHEN YOU ARE TRULY FULFILLED ...

...OR HALF OF THE SCREEN...

...OR A NUMBER OF BUTTONS ...

...SUCH AS THE COVER OVER THE CHARGING PACK ...

BUDDHA'S SHIRT: CUNDA

AND THAT IS ENOUGH. WHILE I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO SEND IMAGES...

THE BUTTONS ARE DEAD, SO YOU'VE JUST BEEN SENDING YOUR MESSAGES WITH TELEPATHY!

BUT YOU STILL *HAVE* TO UP-GRADE NOW AND THEN!

...THEN YOU WILL NEVER CLAIM THAT YOU NEED TO BUY A SMARTPHONE!

JESUS'S SHIRT: SIMEON

FACES? I HAVEN'T SEEN ANY.

...I HAVE LEARNED A CREATIVE WAY TO SEND FACES THROUGH TEXT...

I HAVE BEEN SENDING THEM AT THE END OF EVERY MESSAGE ...

B-BUT... WELL, ALL RIGHT, MAYBE YOU DON'T REALLY *NEED* A SMARTPHONE ...

I THOUGHT THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE SOME SUTRA OF BLESSING OR GOOD LUCK OR SOMETHING!!

EPSILON-PARENTHESIS-APOSTROPHE-THETA-APOSTROPHE-PARENTHESIS-THREE...

PARENTHESIS
EPSILON
APOSTROPHE
THETA

...SEE?

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Chapter 63

Tap! Flick!! Upgrade!!!

BUDDHA I USED TO BE THE FASTEST IN THE HEAVENS AT SENDING MESSAGES TO A PAGER.

HUH?! THEY'RE ALREADY GONE FROM THE MORTAL WORLD?!

THE TRUTH IS, YOU CAN GET A SMARTPHONE FOR FREE!

BUT, BUDDHA...

I CAN'T BUY A NEW MODEL ...

AT ANY RATE... IT'LL BE HARD ENOUGH JUST TO PAY THIS MONTH'S PHONE BILL.

...SO I'M SURE THERE ARE PLENTY OF USED ONES UP IN THE HEAVENS!

MY DISCIPLES OFTEN CHANGE MODELS ...

YES, YOU CAN!

WHAT...? YOU CAN DO THAT?!

...JESUS-SAMA?

SO CAN I ASK ON YOUR BEHALF, THEN?!

REALLY ?!

B-but I know fulfillment, either way.

UM...W-WELL, THAT CHANGES THINGS...

IS THAT REALLY YOU...?

UNITED AFTERLIFE ALLIANCE SPEAKING.

WELL, IF I CALL THE HEAVENLY RECEPTION DESK, I'M SURE SOMEONE CAN HELP US OUT...

HMM, WHO WOULD HAVE ONE...? ANDREW?

AH! HELLO? THIS IS JESUS.

B-BMP

B-BMP

OVER THE PHONE, I HAVE NO WAY OF STICKING MY FINGER INTO YOUR STIGMATA TO CONFIRM YOUR IDENTITY...

WOULD YOU MIND SAYING "ELI ELI LAMA SABACHTHANI" FOR ME?

WELL, I GUESS I CAN ACCEPT THAT.

HMM...? THE "NI" AT THE END SOUNDED A LITTLE STRANGE...

WHAT'S WRONG, JESUS?!

Are you in pain?!

ELI ELI LAMA SABACHTHANI ...

...GREAT, THE MOST OBNOXIOUS OF MY DISCIPLES ...

JESUS I MUST ADMIT THAT AS A *TOKUSATSU* FAN, I WISH I HAD A WRIST-WATCH-TYPE PHONE. HUH?! THEY HAVE THOSE IN THE MORTAL WORLD NOW?!

THE NEXT DAY ...

HUH? IT'S NOT ONE OF YOUR DISCIPLES COMING TO MEET US?

UM... IT'S ABOUT GETTING A SMART-PHONE...

...WHAT BUSINESS DO YOU HAVE WITH THE UAA?

SO, ASSUMING YOU REALLY ***ARE*** JESUS-SAMA...

BUT IF DOUBTING THOMAS CAN VOUCH FOR THIS PERSON, I SUPPOSE THEY ***MUST*** BE ON THE LEVEL!

HMM...

BOY, THOMAS-SAN IS REALLY SERIOUS ABOUT SECURITY, ISN'T HE?

AND HE'LL ONLY PUT US IN TOUCH AFTER HE COMES TO CONFIRM MY IDENTITY TODAY...

THERE ARE TIMES I WONDER IF HE REALLY BELIEVES IN ME...

REALLY?! SO WE CAN'T GET IT AFTER ALL?

APPARENTLY THEY'VE CHANGED THE STANDARDS RECENTLY BETWEEN THE HEAVENS AND THE MORTAL WORLD, SO THEY CAN'T GIVE US ONE...

WELL, HE SAID HE KNOWS SOMEONE WHO HAS ONE THAT WILL WORK HERE.

NAMU?!

WELL, I SUPPOSE YOU'RE R-

URK!!

...THE MARSHMALLOW TEXTURE OF THE EARLOBES... IT'S DEFINITELY YOU TWO.

AH, YES. THE POSITION OF THE WOUND...

CAN'T WE DO THE INTRODUCTIONS FIRST NEXT TIME, THOMAS?!

I APPRECIATE YOU MAKING THE TRIP HERE TO DOUTOR...

IT IS A PLEASURE TO SEE YOU ONCE AGAIN, TEACHER, AND BUDDHA-SAMA.

OH, THEY'RE ALREADY HERE...?

AND THIS IS THE PERSON WHO WILL BE GIVING YOU THE OLD SMARTPHONE ...

AND I DON'T BELIEVE IN BUDDHA-SAMA, BUT I DO LIKE HIM.

BUT OF COURSE I BELIEVE YOU, JESUS-SAMA.

HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU TO STOP DOUBTING AND KEEP YOUR FAITH?!

How this saddens me!!

TALK ABOUT BRUTAL HONESTY ...

THE HELLS STILL HAVEN'T CHANGED THEIR SYSTEM OVER YET, SO...

SET
B SET
A SET

IT IS MARA.

RTTL
カ
A

SO HE HAS MORE SMARTPHONES THAN ANYONE ELSE...

I'M SO ASHAMED !!

DID I SCREW THAT UP?!

OH! I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO GOT A PIECE OF CAKE!!

HE LINES UP OUTSIDE THE STORE EVERY TIME THERE'S A NEW MODEL, YOU SEE.

THE SNAKE BROUGHT OUT AN APPLE.

THOMAS!!

I TALK TO PEOPLE ON *LINE* ALL THE TIME!!

SH-SHUT UP! I DO USE THEM!!

...AND HE USES THEM LESS THAN ANYONE ELSE, SO THE CONDITION IS PRISTINE.

I KNOW, I KNOW! HIS ENEMY IS BUDDHA...BUT IT STILL PUTS HIM ON THE SIDE OF LUCIFER, RIGHT?!

BUT IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE IN DIRECT OPPOSITION.

Y-YOU CAN'T DO THIS, THOMAS! HE'S A DEMON!

THERE IS NO CONNECTION WHATSOEVER BETWEEN LUCIFER AND MARA.

HUH?

Y...YES, I KNOW I'M ON LUCIFER'S SIDE, BUT I CAN AT LEAST GIVE UP A SMARTPHONE ...

HE COULDN'T BRING HIMSELF TO SAY "FRIENDS"!!

...ONLINE ACQUAINT-ANCES !!!

UM...

THOMAS, DON'T...

AND HE CERTAINLY HAS NO CONNECTIONS TO LUCIFER, SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT.

HE HAS NO DEALINGS WITH ANY OF OUR DEVILS.

WHAT A DREADFUL SIGHT!!

AAAH! TH-THAT'S LUCIFER'S FACEBOOK ...?!

LOOK AT LUCIFER'S FACEBOOK PAGE! YOU SEE MY ICON?!

REALLY? IS IT THAT SCARY?

H... HUH?! YES, I DO!!

LUCIFER AND ME ARE TOTALLY FR...

NO WONDER WHY YOU'RE SO SCARED OF POPULAR PEOPLE ONLINE...

IT'S TERRIFYING! THIS IS WHAT A POPULAR KID'S FACEBOOK LOOKS LIKE!!

Happy Birthday!
You're always there for me, and the best frien a demon could have!

Baal
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
You are seriously the coole and you never cease to am me!

Beelzebub
And don't forget about this guy!

19,612 people liked this post.

Baal

...AND ALL THE NOTIFICATIONS OF "SO-AND-SO WAS WITH LUCIFER-SAN"...

JUST LOOK AT HOW MANY PICTURES OF OTHER DEMONS HE'S TAGGED IN...

B-BUT THOMAS-SAN-!

...EVEN FROM PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW ▮IM.

Not true! I have!!

I HEAR THAT HE NEVER TURNS DOWN A FRIEND REQUEST...

...WHO DEFECTED WITH HIM WHEN HE STAGED HIS REBELLION ...

I GUESS THIS EXPLAINS WHY THERE WERE SO MANY ANGELS ...

IS THAT ALL IT TAKES TO FIX THE PROBLEM ?!

IF YOU FILL IN THE MISSING PART, IT LOOKS LIKE NO ONE'S EATEN FROM IT.

LOOK...

WHITE-OUT

HE'S GOT KIND OF A THING ABOUT THEM.

IF YOU'RE GOING TO GIVE JESUS A SMARTPHONE, I *REALLY* THINK IT'S BEST IF YOU DON'T GIVE HIM AN APPLE...

HERE, JUST GIVE IT A LITTLE TEST.

THERE ARE PLENTY OF APPS INSTALLED ALREADY.

DON'T OVERTHINK THIS, BUDDHA-SAMA...

HE REALLY KNOWS HOW TO DEAL WITH JESUS!

OH? WELL, DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT.

ナニンダ

...?!?

L-LOOK, DID YOU SEE THIS? YOU CAN BUY DIGITAL BOOKS!

IT'S THE PERFECT APP FOR A NERD LIKE YOU!!

SEE THAT?! THEY EVEN HAVE OSAMU TEZUKA!

IT'S A-AMAZING, RIGHT?!

OH! W... WOW!

YOU'RE BEHIND THE TIMES, OF COURSE IT WOULD BLOW YOUR MIND!!

BUDDHA, STOP! YOUR TAPPING MOTION IS TURNING INTO THE MUDRA OF GRATITUDE!!

Mara's going to fade away!!

...GO...

SWOOSH...

AND THAT INCLUDES THE FULL SERIES OF *BUDDHA*, SO YOU CAN READ IT ANYWHERE ON THE...

WHEN YOU'RE A PRO LIKE ME, YOU MIGHT END UP IN A CONVERSATION WITH YOUR PHONE LONG INTO THE NIGHT!

WITH HIS SMART-PHONE?!

BUT YOU SEE, THERE'S A TRICK TO DOING IT SMOOTHLY, WITHOUT A HITCH!

HEH... HEH HEH. JUDGING BY THAT REACTION, YOU DIDN'T KNOW YOU CAN TALK TO YOUR SMART-PHONE EITHER, DID YOU ?!

S-SORRY! MY WORLDLY DESIRES WERE BEING STIMULATED TOO MUCH! I DID THAT ON INSTINCT TO BRING TRANQUILITY TO MY HEART...

HEY, DUMMY! THAT'S STILL MINE, SO IT'S GOING TO GIVE YOU MY PERSONAL ...

WHO AM I?

IF YOU ASK, "WHO AM I?" IT WILL DISPLAY YOUR OWN DEVICE ADDRESS, FOR EXAMPLE. IT'S VERY HANDY.

He doesn't miss a beat...

HUH? TALK TO IT?!

THE NEW OWNER THAT I HAVE BEEN SEEKING ALL THIS TIME.

PLING ♫

YOU ARE BUDDHA, THE ENLIGHTENED ONE.

チュンダ"

I CAN SEARCH THE WEB FOR YOU, THOUGH.

"MARA" NOT RECOG-NIZED.

HUH? N-NO, YOU'RE MARA'S ...

APPAR-ENTLY HE IMAGINED THE PHONE AS KEN WATANABE.

...!!
.....!!!
.....!!!!

I MEAN, IT'S WHAT THEY SHOWED IN THE COMMER-CIALS...

...YOU WERE A TRUE FRIEND WHO UNDERSTOOD ME... SOMEONE I COULD TALK TO ABOUT ANYTHING...

mara

POP !!

I...I THOUGHT...

OKAY! AND NOW YOU'RE OFFICIALLY ON YOUR NEW MODEL.

au

SoftBank

au

au

au

au

HE ALREADY WENT OFF TO CHECK OUT THE NEWEST LINE OF PRODUCTS.

NO, IT WOULD BE MORE CRUEL TO RETURN IT NOW!!

L SOB

SOB L

?

J-JESUS, ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS? WE JUST TOOK HIS BEST FRIEND AWAY...

AND I'M USED TO GETTING INSTANT RESPONSES TO EVERYTHING I SEND!!

BESIDES, I ALREADY HAVE A DEMON FRIEND I TEXT ALL THE TIME...

AND HE AGREED TO HAND HIS PHONE OVER IN EXCHANGE FOR THEIR EMAIL ADDRESSES AFTER IT'S DONE.

THAT'S RIGHT. DON'T LET THIS BOTHER YOU.

THANK YOU FOR BLESSING HIM, FATHER.

THANK GOODNESS... I'M SO GLAD FOR YOU!!

Y...YOU HAVE SOMEONE WHO CARES FOR YOU THAT MUCH, MARA...?

SWOOSH

YOU'RE MAKING ME DIS-APPEAR, DUMMY!!

S-STOP IT!! WHY ARE YOU SHINING?!

D-DON'T TEASE ME LIKE THAT! THAT WOULDN'T MAKE ME HAPPY! A-AT ALL!!

I REMEMBER HOW YOUR OLD EMAIL ADDRESS HAD THE WORD "GUILTY" IN IT AND STUFF...

YEAH...

Whew...

CUSTOMER SATISF

OH... I'M SO RELIEVED!

NOW I CAN BE AT PEACE AND COME UP WITH A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS...

OPTICAL FIBER DOWNLOADS

NO SURPRISE THERE. ACTUALLY, TEN IS PROBABLY ON THE LOWER SIDE.

AH, YEAH, THERE ARE TEN OTHER PEOPLE WHO TOOK THIS ONE...

30%OFF

¥480

...SOMEONE ELSE HAS ALWAYS TAKEN IT ALREADY ...

THE PROBLEM IS, WHENEVER YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT A GOOD ONE...

OH! WOW!!

I PUT A LITTLE ASCII FACE IN MINE TO MAKE SURE IT WAS DIFFERENT, THEN SENT OUT A NOTICE...

Oh, you're right! There are ten people in my address book!

...INTO THE ADDRESS FORM IN THE ORIGINAL SANSKRIT, AND IT WAS ALREADY TAKEN...

IT'S TRUE. I JUST TYPED ONE OF MY FAVORITE SUTRAS...

OH, MAN! ME AND PILATE-SAN HAD SOME *TIMES* BACK IN THE DAY!

I JUST GOT AN EMAIL FROM A REALLY OLD ACQUAINTANCE!

Just to say they received my new address...

OOH, THAT SOUNDS KIND OF FUN! LET ME TRY THAT, TOO...

TEN PEOPLE... ARE YOU SURE THOSE AREN'T YOUR TEN MAJOR DISCIPLES?!

WAIT, HOW DID SOMETHING SO OBSCURE GET TAKEN?!

OH...

13 54

mailer-daemon@g..

Delivery Status Notification

Technical details of permanent failure:
the error that the server returned was
550 Host not found for domain sonymusic.jp/local/ps-mlp

The mail system

WOW! THAT ONE WAS ESPECIALLY QUICK...

I WONDER WHO WILL REPLY BACK TO SAY THEY GOT IT...

"I'VE CHANGED MY EMAIL ADDRESS." AND...SEND TO ALL!

ER, ACTUALLY, IT'S NOT *THAT*, EXACTLY...

OH...M-MAYBE THERE WAS A TECHNICAL MIX-UP, IF HE'S GOT A DIFFERENT MODEL, TOO...

IS IT... ALAMA-SENSEI ...?

Your first teacher?

FIBER

THAT'S RIGHT! HE'S A FUNGUS GNAT NOW!

HE'S LEADING A NEW LIFE NOW, YOU SEE...

HUH?

WAIT A SECOND...

docomo

...I FEEL LESS LONELY GETTING A MESSAGE FROM A MAILER DAEMON...

WELL, EVEN IF IT WASN'T FROM *HIM*...

iPhone

780

...YOU'RE FRIENDS WITH HIM, TOO?

ARE YOU TELLING ME...

mailer-daemon@google.c

Messages | Edit

Delivery Status Notification

Technical details of permanent failure.
the error that the server returned was:
550 Host not found for domain.sonymusic.jp/local/ps-mtp

The mail system

WAIT... YOU MEAN THE FRIEND YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT IS...?

BUT MAKE NO MISTAKE, *I'VE* EMAILED HIM A LOT MORE THAN YOU!!

I'M JUST SAYING, DANG! SMALL WORLD!!

I MEAN... IT'S FINE!!

H...HUH? UM...?

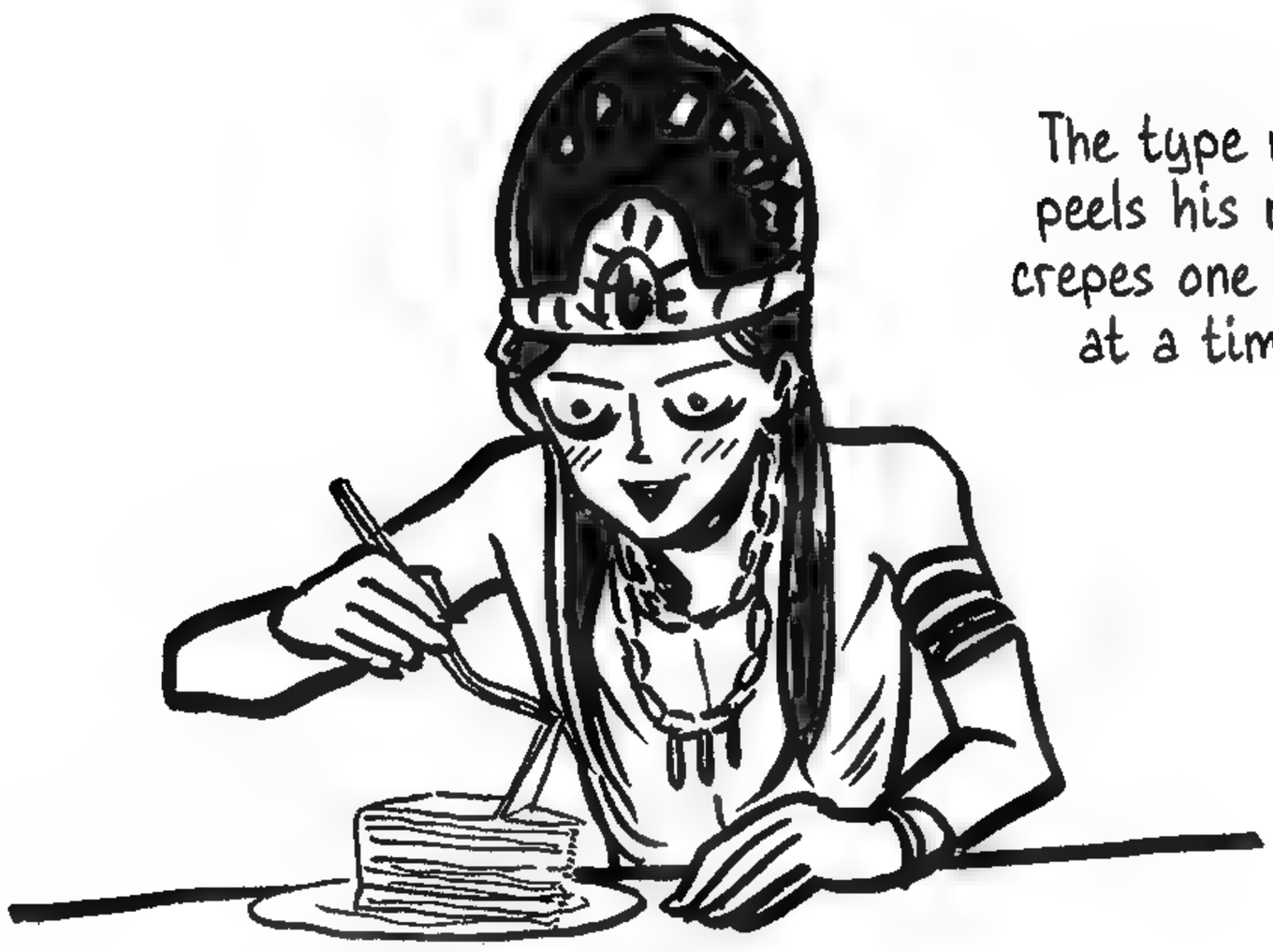
APPARENTLY HE'S SAVED EVERY SINGLE EMAIL HE'S GOTTEN FROM THE MAILER DAEMON.

AS LONG AS YOUR HEARTS ARE ONE, THAT'S ENOUGH! DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!!

I'M STARTING TO THINK I SHOULD START STUDYING ENGLISH TO UNDERSTAND HIM.

YEAH, IT'S TRUE. HE'S FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY...

...BUT HE'LL ALWAYS WRITE BACK, EVEN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT. THAT'S DEDICATION TO BEING A FRIEND...


The type who peels his mille crepes one layer at a time.

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

CHAPTER 63 TRANSLATION NOTES

Cunda,
A blacksmith known for giving the Buddha what turned out to be his final meal before his death. The meal, known as "pig's delight," is held to be either a pork dish, or what pigs might eat (truffles, vegetables).

Simeon,
In the Book of Genesis, Simeon was the second son of Jacob, and the founder of the Tribe of Simeon, one of the Twelve Tribes of Israel.

Doubting Thomas,
One of Jesus' disciples known for being skeptical of the reports that Jesus had risen from the dead after his crucifixion and burial in the tomb, stating that he would only believe when he had touched the stigmata for himself, the holes left by the nails from the cross. The phrase "Eli Eli Lama Sabachthani" is the Hebrew phrase attributed to Jesus on the cross, translated to "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

Ken Watanabe,
While actor Ken Watanabe is well known internationally for movies like T*he Last Samurai* and the recent *Godzilla* films, in this case, the reference is to a series of commercials he did for the Japanese mobile network NTT Docomo, in which he personifies some of the features their smartphones can offer users.

Pilate,
The Roman governor of Judea who was responsible for presiding over the trial of Jesus and ordering his crucifixion.

BEING BUSY CAN BE VERY FULFILLING.

HOWEVER ...

HELLO, YOU'VE REACHED THE UNITED AFTERLIFE ALLIANCE.

THIS IS ANANDA, THE ACCOUNTANT.

ANANDA, HAVE YOU RESERVED A RESTAURANT FOR OUR GET-TOGETHER WITH THE UNDERWORLD SIDE?

YES! YES!

A RECEIPT FOR A SUIT?

ANANDA-KUN, TAKE CARE OF THIS, TOO!

UM, SURE!

YES, I'VE GOT YOUR RECEIPT RIGHT HERE. I'M PROCESSING IT NOW!

UM, BUDDHA-SAMA...

THE MORTAL WORLD

NOW, DON'T PANIC WHEN YOU HEAR THIS...

WHAT ABOUT THIS, ANANDA-KUN?

AND THIS!

AND THIS.

NOT YET...

ANANDA, DID YOU SUBMIT THOSE REPORTS?

NOT YET, I WAS JUST ABOUT TO...

I'M SORRY, DID YOU SAY "RUN AWAY" OR "RENOUNCED"?!
ANANDA... HAS RUN AWAY FROM HOME...
SAINT YOUNG MEN
Chapter 64
Runaway Disciple

THAT'S WHAT WE THOUGHT, TOO...

WELL, HE'S A GROWN HOLY MAN, HE CAN TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF ...

OH, SO IT'S ONLY BEEN A DAY...

YES, IT WAS YESTERDAY THAT WE REALIZED HE HADN'T COME BACK HOME...

OUT OF CURIOSITY, I CHECKED HIS SEARCH HISTORY, AND...

UM...W-WELL, THAT'S A GOOD SET OF QUESTIONS TO ANSWER, ISN'T IT?

...TITLED "BURNOUT SYNDROME CHECKLIST" ...

...BUT THERE WAS A PRINTOUT ON HIS DESK THAT HE MUST HAVE FOUND ON THE INTERNET ...

ALL RIGHT! I'LL LOOK FOR HIM! I'LL DO EVERYTHING I CAN!!

I'M VERY SORRY, BUDDHA-SAMA...

IT WAS... WORRI-SOME.

IS EVERYTHING OKAY WITH ANANDA-KUN?

OKAY, GREAT. THANKS...

SO SOMEONE SAW HIM LAST AT JACOB'S LADDER, THEN?

Devas abuse

Search History

Devas abuse

Devas worked to d

Devas labor violation

Quitting job proc ure

Resignation letter when

Too old for new job when

Hawaii

Puppies

Hot springs

Erase Search History

✓ Google

Yahoo!

CLICK...

...HE BOLDLY CLAIMED THAT HE WOULD NOT SEEK MY HELP IN A TIME OF EMERGENCY.

PROBABLY NOT. WHEN HE WAS A FOLLOWER OF MINE...

DO YOU SUPPOSE HE'LL COME TO MEET YOU IF WE WAIT HERE?

BUDDHA'S SHIRT: KAPILAVASTU

JESUS'S SHIRT: BALAAM

BUDDHA LIKES HORSES, AND IS CURIOUS ABOUT POSTERS THAT SAY THINGS LIKE "DERBY" AND "OAKS." WHAT DOES "JRA" MEAN?

YEAH, I SAW HIM AT THE STATION TODAY.

WHO, THIS PRETTY BOY?

ALL RIGHT, THEN... I SUPPOSE WE SHOULD START CLOSE TO HOME.

WE'LL JUST HAVE TO ASK AROUND THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY.

AH... I SEE...

VRRM...

WHICH WAY DID THAT BUS GO?!

THAT'S HIM!! HE ALWAYS ATTRACTS ATTENTION!!

An eternal hit with the ladies!!

HMM. I'M PRETTY SURE IT WAS...

HE WAS BEING CHASED AROUND BY A BUNCH OF GIRLS, AND JUMPED ONTO THE BUS TO ESCAPE.

WHAT?! YOU DID?!?

THIS IS PRACTICALLY ONE OF THOSE ASCETIC TRAINING JUNGLES WHERE NO WOMEN ARE ALLOWED...

FEEL THE RUSH
TACHIKAWA RACING
BICYCLE RACETRACK

I CAN SEE WHY HE'D FEEL SAFE HERE...

WHOA! LOOK, JESUS! SO MANY COLORFUL BICYCLES!

I HAD NO IDEA THIS PLACE WAS HERE, THOUGH...

I BELIEVE THEY'RE BETTING MONEY ON THESE BICYCLE RACES...

BUDDHA ...

WHAT'S THE MATTER ?!

OH! DO YOU SUPPOSE IT'S A DRESS CODE, JESUS...

AND WHY DO YOU SUPPOSE THAT ALL OF THOSE MEN ARE DRESSED IN YELLOW...?

WHAT MAKES YOU SAY THAT?!

CRIMINALS AND SLAVES, FORCED TO RISK THEIR LIVES...

LIKE THE ROMAN GLADI-ATORS ...

THEY MUST BE FORCED TO DO THIS!!

OH, SO *THAT'S* WHAT THIS PLACE IS FOR...

JESUS?! WHAT IS IT?!

orz

OH...YOU'RE RIGHT! THEY'RE ALL ASSUMING THE ONLINE "ORZ" EXPRESSION!!

BECAUSE WHY ELSE WOULD THEY BEG FOR THEIR LIVES LIKE THAT!

JESUS, CALM DOWN!

AND IT'S STILL HAPPENING, RIGHT IN THE CITY WHERE I'M VACATIONING!

WAAAH!

...TO STOP PEOPLE PLACING MONEY ON FIGHTS TO THE DEATH...

AFTER THE CHURCH WORKED SO HARD ...

OH... NOW I GET IT!

DON'T WORRY, JESUS. THEY'RE NOT BEGGING FOR THEIR LIVES...

A good bike race stirs up a man's heart!

HUH...?

AAAH, DAMN! I LOST AGAIN!!

I'M SURE THERE'S ANOTHER MEANING ...

THERE'S NO WAY THAT CAN BE TRUE! NOT IN PEACEFUL TACHIKAWA!

SAYS THE MAN WHO'LL BE BACK HERE TOMORROW.

I QUIT, MAN! WIN OR LOSE, ALL I'M DOING IS PAYING THE HOUSE!

He said "again."

ARE THEY REGULARS HERE...?

I THINK IT'S A RELIGIOUS RITE. THEY'RE OFFERING PRAYERS TO ME AS THEY RIDE!

THEY'RE PROSTRATING THEMSELVES...

SO EVERYONE'S PAYING THEIR TEMPLE OFFERINGS OVER AT THAT WINDOW?

YOU KNOW, I THINK I'VE HEARD OF THAT!

WHEN HE SAID "PAYING THE HOUSE," HE MUST HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT THE *HOLY* HOUSE... A TEMPLE!

IT'S A HIGH-RISK, HIGH-REWARD OFFERING.

THEY'RE SO DEVOUT!

IN FACT, JUST LOOK AT THEM ALL PRAYING...

JESUS FASCINATED WITH THE CASINOS FROM MOVIES. WANTS TO SAY "I'M ALL IN" LIKE A COOL GUY. DOES SOMETHING HAPPEN WHEN YOU COLLECT THOSE PLASTIC DISCS?

YO!

YO, YO, YO!

RIGHT. I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO LOOK...

...IT'S SO BIG, I DON'T KNOW IF WE'LL EVER FIND HIM...

BUT EVEN IF THIS IS THE RIGHT SPOT...

HMM? "YOU KNOW WHAT"...?

YEAH, MEET UP AT THE USUAL YOU-KNOW-WHAT!

LET'S GO AND FIND THIS SPOT!

THAT IT WASN'T JUST A RANDOM DESTINATION AFTER ALL?

DO YOU SUPPOSE ANANDA'S MEETING SOMEONE HERE?

...LIKE A HACHIKÔ STATUE FOR A BICYCLE RACE-TRACK?

DOES THAT MEAN THERE'S A FAMOUS LANDMARK HERE...

WHAT KIND OF FRIEND DOES HE HAVE IN THE HUMAN WORLD...?

I'M SORRY FOR COMING TO SEE YOU AGAIN...

WAIT! HE'S TALKING TO SOMEONE!

I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE SAFE...

BOSE

IS THIS IT? IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A PLACE WHERE YOU'D MEET SOMEONE...

...OH! THERE HE IS! ANANDA-KUN!!

WELL, YOU *ARE* A VERY HANDSOME MAN...

I KNOW IT'S NOT THE FIRST TIME I'VE RUN TO YOUR SIDE TO ESCAPE FROM WOMEN...

BOSE

THERE'S ANANDA-KUN!

THANKS FOR MEETIN' UP. ALWAYS FEELS LIKE I'LL LOSE IF I DON'T COME HERE FIRST.

ARE YOU ON THE WAY HOME FROM WORK, LIKE LAST TIME?

SO WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE TODAY?

TO US, A JIZÔ STATUE IS VERY REASSURING, LIKE A SAVE POINT IN A GAME.

THAT'S A NEW ONE...

HE'S MEETING WITH... THE STATUE THAT'S A MEETING SPOT...

YOU DID? WELL, I'M NOT SURPRISED. YOU TAKE ON TOO MUCH...

YES, I SUPPOSE THAT'S PART OF MY PROBLEM. BUT...

...THAT I RAN AWAY FROM WORK...

ACTU-ALLY... I'M ASHAMED TO ADMIT ...

We simply must talk about this next time!!

Oh, wow! I totally know what you mean!

Whew...

I HAVE TO TRAVEL NEAR THE PEARLY GATES TO SUBMIT THE REPORTS, SO I'LL ASK HIM.

JOHN-SAN'S IN THE SAME POSITION. WHAT WOULD HE DO NOW?

I WAS THE LAST TO REACH ENLIGHTENMENT AND LEAVE MY EARTHLY BODY, SO I CAN'T GET OVER FEELING LIKE I'M ALWAYS THE LAST IN LINE...

THAT NOTHING I DO IS GOOD ENOUGH ...

AND I'LL HAVE TO FAST AGAIN TODAY TO KEEP UP WITH THE WORK...

TAP

TAP

TAP

TAP

TAP

TAP

ANANDA HEARS THAT MAHJONG PARLORS ARE A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE SIT AROUND THE TABLE AND TALK ALL NIGHT. WOULD LIKE TO GO THERE WITH BUDDHA-SAMA, CLOSE HIS EYES, AND LISTEN TO THE TEACHINGS.

WHAT? A CLERICAL ERROR?

UM, JOHN-SAN...

DOES HE KNOW A WAY TO FINISH MY WORK FASTER?

I'M OFF THE CLOCK! I HAVE A SALON APPOINTMENT!

NO! AS A DISCIPLE BELOVED BY THE LORD, I MUST GO HOME NOW...

I GUESS THAT WHEN THE BOSS TAKES HIS REST, IT MEANS EVERYONE ELSE HAS THE RIGHT TO REST, TOO...

I'm sorry about this!!

YOU CAN'T COMPARE YOUR FOLKS TO OURS, ANANDA-KUN!! WE TAKE OUR DAY OF REST *VERY* SERIOUSLY!!

...THAT THE NEXT THING I KNEW, I WAS HERE...

IT WAS SUCH A SHOCK ...

I DON'T KNOW, YOU MIGHT BE OVERTHINKING THAT, BUDDHA...

...IS BECAUSE HE WAS TOO BUSY DEALING WITH MY FOLLOWERS !!

THE REASON HE WAS THE LAST TO REACH ENLIGHTEN-MENT...

HE'S ALWAYS PUT HIS OWN NEEDS BEHIND EVERYONE ELSE'S...

IF ANYONE GETS TO USE THE "I'M JUST NOT GIVING IT MY ALL YET" CLICHÉ, I SUPPOSE IT'S HIM!

...and became enlightened.

I finally gave it my all...

LOOK, HE GAINED ENLIGHTENMENT IN A SINGLE NIGHT AFTER I DIED. SEE WHAT I MEAN?

STILL, EVEN IF YOU LIKE IT...

PLUS, I LIKE IT WHEN I'M BUSY WITH WORK.

...IT'S PAINFUL WHEN YOU CAN'T SEE ANY END IN SIGHT, NO?

AND I REALLY DON'T HAVE *THAT* MUCH WORK...

BUT IT'S TOO LATE...

...THEN YOU SHOULD FOLLOW JOHN-SAN'S LEAD AND SAY NO SOMETIMES.

IF YOU KNOW THIS ...

*AND IF YOU HAVE TO DO IT, COMPARE YOURSELF TO **ANYONE** BUT THAT!!*

DON'T COMPARE YOUR-SELF TO OTHERS.

I MEAN, THOUSAND-ARMED KANNON-SAN IS WAY BUSIER THAN ME...

ZWIP

ZWIP

ZWIP

ZWIP

YOU GO THROUGH TRAINING ...

...BECAUSE YOU HAVE THE GOAL OF ESCAPING SAMSARA AT THE VERY END TO STRIVE FOR.

HUH...?

...BUT I GOT THROUGH IT BECAUSE I KNEW I'D GET SOME VACATION TIME AFTER IT WAS DONE.

I WAS SWAMPED WITH WORK AT THE END OF THE MILLENNIUM ...

HE'S RIGHT ...

ANANDA ...

UM... ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT...?

IF IT WERE TO LAST FOREVER, EVEN BUDDHA-SAMA WOULD NOT GO THROUGH WITH IT, I THINK.

AND WE KNOW THE EXACT NUMBER OF YEARS LEFT TO GO.

...BUT WE CAN DEAL WITH IT, BECAUSE WE KNOW IT ONLY LASTS UNTIL MAITREYA BUDDHA APPEARS.

WE JIZÔ BODDHI-SATVAS ARE BUSY, TOO...

THERE, YOU SEE? I KNOW THAT NO MATTER HOW BUSY I GET...

Maybe that was the hardest part about it.

THE NEW TASKS I'VE BEEN GIVEN RECENTLY ARE THE KIND THAT HAVE NO PARTICULAR END...

IT'S VERY NICE TO KNOW PRECISELY WHEN YOUR HARD WORK WILL BE REWARDED!

...I'VE GOT A NICE VACATION TO LOOK FORWARD TO!!

...IN JUST 5,670,000,000 MORE YEARS...

OH, THAT?

AND WHAT IS THIS NEW JOB OF YOURS?

YES, VERY NICE.

...WE SHOULD TRAVEL TOGETH-ER!

IF I FINISH MY NEW JOB BY THEN...

THAT SOUNDS GREAT...

AFTER SOME DISCUSSION, ANANDA GOT HIS WORKLOAD REDUCED BY 20%.

DON'T WORRY!! I'M NOT GOING TO BE ON VACATION FOR THE NEXT CENTURY!!

I'M PROCESSING THE RECEIPTS FROM BUDDHA-SAMA'S VACATION!

Q

What do you find difficult about your job?

A

I'm on my feet all the time, so swollen ankles are a concern.

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

CHAPTER 64 TRANSLATION NOTES

Balaam,
The name of a prophet in the Old Testament, in the time that Moses led the Israelites. A rival king wishes for Balaam to curse the Israelites, but while on the road to deliver his curse, an angel of God appears, visible only to Balaam's donkey. The donkey refuses to go on, and speaks miraculously to Balaam, at which point he sees the angel as well and repents his ways.

Kapilavastu,
The capital of the Shakya clan in ancient India, and the home of Gautama Buddha in his childhood.

orz,
A text figure (emoji) popular in Japan and other East Asian countries, where the combination of the lowercase letters "orz" resembles a person on their knees with hands on the ground and a downcast head.

Hachikô,
A famous dog known for waiting at Shibuya Station for his owner to return from work every day, and continuing to wait faithfully at the station for ten years after his owner's death. A statue was built at Shibuya Station the very next year in 1936, and ever since it has been a landmark and meet-up spot outside the station.

Maitreya Buddha,
The name of a future buddha who is said to come and usher in a new age of teaching, taking over for the current buddha of Gautama, 5.6 billion years after his death. Jizô Bodhisattva is said to make his mission to wait upon the earth until the advent of Maitreya.

BUT SOMETIMES, TO BRING ENRICHMENT TO LIFE...

A VOW OF HUMBLE POVERTY IS A BEAUTIFUL THING.

WE HAVE THOSE FANCY HANA CELEB PREMIUM MOISTURIZING TISSUES!

STOP THAT, BUDDHA. DON'T USE TOILET PAPER...

...THE TINIEST BIT OF EXTRAVA-GANCE IS CALLED FOR.

BUDDHA'S SHIRT: AWAKENED ME

I...I'M SORRY. THOSE HANA CELEB TISSUES ARE JUST SO EXPENSIVE...

BUT IT'S TEARING YOUR POOR NOSE TO SHREDS!

WAAA-CHOO!!

I KNOW, BUT WHEN I'M BLOWING MY NOSE SO MUCH, IT JUST FEELS LIKE A WA... WA...

I'LL BE FINE. I'VE GOT MY OWN SNACKS, TOO.

LISTEN, I CAN CUT BACK ON MY SNACKS TO HELP.

YOU DON'T NEED TO DO THAT, EITHER!

HUH...?

...TO EVEN EVERYTHING OUT...

BUT I HAVE BEEN CUTTING BACK ON MY FOOD EXPENSES ...

AH! YOU'RE RIGHT! YOUR PORTION IS SMALLER!

HANA CELEB TISSUES DO NOT COUNT AS SNACKS!!

THESE TISSUES ARE JUST A LITTLE BIT SWEET IF YOU PUT THEM IN YOUR MOUTH...

nepia
HANA CELEB

SAINT YOUNG MEN
Side Story 1

They Grow More Plentiful Along the Ground

目覚めた

JESUS REALLY WANTS TO TAKE A CONVERT-IBLE INTO A DRIVE-IN THEATER. WHAT? THERE AREN'T ANY LEFT IN JAPAN...?

I CAN DO THIS. I DON'T HAVE A FEVER OR ANYTHING...

N-NO, IT'S FINE! YOU STAY HERE AND REST! I'LL DO IT!!

WELL, I'M GOING TO GO PAY THE RENT...

WHEW ...

JESUS'S SHIRT: SARIEL

OH, JUST LOOK AT YOU! THE GREAT FLOOD IS COMING OUT OF YOUR FACE THIS TIME!

...BUT IT'S JUST A LITTLE ITCHING OF THE EYES AND A RUNNY N-N... *NA-CHOO!!*

I MIGHT BE A LITTLE OUT OF IT...

YOU'VE GOT ALLERGIES.

DO I HAVE TO EXPLAIN IT?

SNIFF SNIFF

NOW, REALLY ...

HUH? W-WHAT DO YOU MEAN, POLLEN...?

...BUT THERE'S A LOT OF OPENING AND CLOSING THE DOOR ON RENT DAY.

I'VE GOT AN AIR PURIFIER TO DEAL WITH THE POLLEN...

LOOK, I'LL GIVE YOU ONE, TOO.

JUST COME INSIDE! I DON'T WANT THE OUTSIDE AIR GETTING IN.

HUH...? OH, DO YOU HAVE A COLD, MATSUDA-SAN? YOU'RE WEARING A MASK...

SNIFF

SEASONAL ALLERGIES

ERGY RELIEF

MASKS

COLD MEDICINE 2

I'M GLAD SHE TOLD US THAT WE CAN GET OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICINE FOR THIS.

I'D HEARD OF THAT BEFORE, I JUST DIDN'T REALIZE IT HAPPENED SO SUDDENLY...

目覚めた私

DRUGSTORE

AHH, SO IT'S ALLERGIES FROM POLLEN ...

E DROPS

WHAT ABOUT THAT "AIR PURIFIER" MATSUDA-SAN HAD AT HER PLACE?

OH, ALSO...

I SUPPOSE I SHOULD BUY THESE EYE DROPS, TOO...

FROM WHAT I HEAR, IF YOU KEEP BREATHING IN POLLEN, YOU EVENTUALLY DEVELOP ALLERGIES ANYWAY.

BUT IT WILL BENEFIT ME, TOO.

And so expen-sive...

NO, I'M GOOD. IF IT'S JUST FOR ME IT'S NOT WORTH IT...

SO THIS IS FOR ALL OF HUMANITY'S SAKE, THEN?

Have patience, this step will take seven days.

...I GET THE FEELING THAT DAD WILL ATTEMPT TO PURIFY THE AIR HIMSELF ...

IF I COME DOWN WITH ALLERGIES ...

ドドドドド

ドドドドド

NO! I'VE GOT THE EYE DROPS. LET'S JUST GO!

THEN YOU SHOULD AT LEAST GET THESE ANTI-POLLEN GOGGLES...

Cut down on pollen!!
POLLEN GOGGLES

IT'S FINE. I'LL JUST MAKE SURE TO KEEP WIPING DOWN THE ROOM...

BUDDHA WISHES HE COULD GO INTO LOTUS POSITION, CALM HIS MIND, AND WATCH A MOVIE. WHAT?! JAPAN HAS THEATERS WHERE YOU CAN SIT ON A CUSHION...?

I'VE GOT THE MASK, BUT THE POLLEN IS GETTING RIGHT INTO MY EYES!!

RUB
RUB

THE MOMENT I STEPPED OUTSIDE, MY EYES STARTED ITCHING...

THAT'S TRUE...

OOF!

It's nice not to need extra layers.

OOH, IT'S ALMOST WARM OUTSIDE TODAY...

IT'S NOT THAT I **CAN'T** OPEN MY EYES...

NO, WAIT... CONSIDER THE SITUATION...

HRRG

SHOULD I HAVE BOUGHT THOSE GOGGLES AFTER ALL?!

UGH! I CAN'T EVEN OPEN MY EYES, IT'S SO BAD!

THE BREEZE...

THE SUN'S WARMTH...

HAAAZEP

THE SMELL OF FLOWERS...

...AH!!

I DON'T ***NEED*** TO OPEN THEM NOW...

I SHOULD LOOK AT THE SURROUNDINGS WITH MY MIND'S EYE!!

ギュッ...

MMF...

OPEN YOUR EYES AGAIN, BUDDHA...

YOUR THIRD EYE HAS OPENED!!

...

I HAVE REACHED THE ULTIMATE STAGE OF POLLEN AVOIDANCE...

CALM YOURSELF, JESUS.

IT ONLY INCREASED HIS SUFFERING BY FIFTY PERCENT.

SO THAT ONE GETS ITCHY, TOO...?

RUB RUB RUB

WAIT. NOW IT ITCHES...

SURE. THAT WAS AN INTERESTING SITE, BECAUSE IT SHOWED THE MECHANISMS OF HOW THE ALLERGY RESPONSE WORKS.

I should do some research...

SHOW ME THAT SITE YOU WERE LOOKING AT, AGAIN?

OOF. IT REALLY DOES GET RIGHT INTO YOUR EYES.

AND THAT'S WHAT LEADS TO SNEEZING AND TEARS... THE BODY IS A WONDROUS THING!

THE BODY'S IMMUNE SYSTEM CONFUSES THE POLLEN FOR ENEMY GERMS, AND LEADS A FIERCE ATTACK!

?!

MY...MY BODY...

...WHAT IS IT, BUDDHA?

WHEN YOU CONSIDER THAT IT'S JUST YOUR IMMUNE SYSTEM TRYING TO PROTECT YOU...

It's kind of sweet, in a way.

IT'S A NEGATIVE, BUT FOR A GOOD REASON.

WH... WHAT DID YOU SAY...?

IT... *ATTACKS* THE POLLEN?!

YES, IT SAYS SO RIGHT HERE!

...AHIMSA, THE PRINCIPLE OF NONVIOLENCE?!

MY BODY IS VIOLATING...

AND NOW I AM DESTROYING INNOCENT POLLEN?!

...SO THAT THE NEW ABUNDANCE OF INSECTS WOULD NOT BE STEPPED UPON...

WHEN THE RAINS COME, I FORBADE TRAINING IN THE FOREST...

AHIM... WHAT?

HUH? WHERE ARE YOU GOING, BUDDHA?! THAT'S...

DASH

I UNDERSTAND NOW...

YOU REALIZE THAT'S ONLY GOING TO MAKE IT WORSE, RIGHT?!

DON'T TRY TO STOP ME, JESUS!

PAUSE

THE CEDAR TREE AVENUE ...

THESE ARE NOT TEARS OF ALLERGIES, BUT OF SADNESS... THAT I CANNOT STOP THE VIOLENCE OF THE IMMUNE SYSTEM!!

OH NO!! HE'S EMBARKING ON AN IMPOSSIBLE PLAN!!

I INTEND TO DELIVER A LECTURE TO MY OWN IMMUNE SYSTEM ...

...AND REFORM ITS WAYS SO THAT IT WILL NOT ATTACK POLLEN...

目覚めた

THESE ONES HAVE NOT COME TO ATTACK ME...

LISTEN TO ME, ANTI-BODIES ...

CEASE THIS SORROWFUL WAR YOU WAGE...

WAIT... WHAT?!

OH, GREAT! THE ONLY THING I CAN USE TO HIDE IT IS YOUR MASK!

Hmm? What's that?

W-WAIT, WAIT, STOP! BUDDHA, YOU'RE SHINING LIKE CRAZY!!

UM...

THEY ARE MERELY ATTEMPTING TO FORGE THEIR NEXT LINK IN THE CYCLE OF REINCAR-NATION...

OH! CAN IT BE-?!

TH-THAT CEDAR TREE... IT LOOKS DIFFERENT SOMEHOW...

HANG ON...!

...MADE IT GROW ENORMOUS!

THE PHOTOSYNTHESIS FROM THE GLOW HE'S EMITTING...

I DIDN'T THINK SO!!!

KABLOOSH

WAIT... DID YOUR IMMUNE SYSTEM ACTUALLY REFORM ITSELF?

PLIP PLIP

UH-OH... THAT'LL MEAN A WHOLE BUNCH MORE POLLEN... ARE YOU ALL RIGHT...?

THERE WAS A HUGE DISPERSAL OF POLLEN IN TACHIKAWA YESTERDAY.

IN TODAY'S NEWS...

THE NEXT DAY...

JESUS'S SHIRT: JESUS

I THINK I'LL STAY QUIET ABOUT THIS NEWS UNTIL NEXT YEAR...

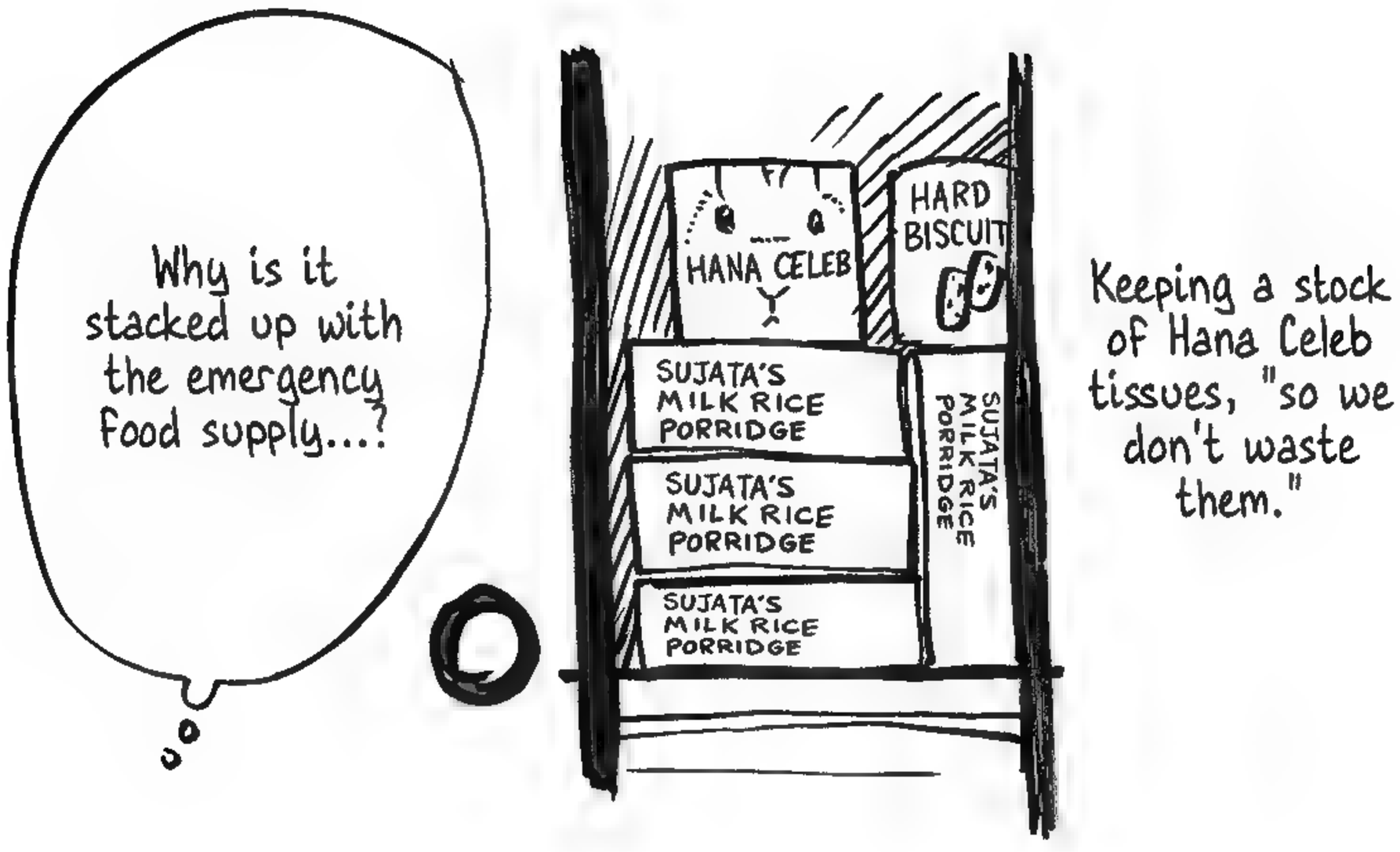
SNIFF

I SUPPOSE MY ANTIBODIES AND THE POLLEN MUST HAVE MADE UP!!

BEEP

AH, THIS IS NICE. NO ITCHING TODAY.

IN FACT, IT BLEW ALL OF THE YEAR'S POLLEN OFF OF THE PLANTS, WHICH MEANS THAT MASKS SHOULD NO LONGER BE NECESSARY IN THE CITY.


Why is it stacked up with the emergency food supply...?
HANA CELEB
HARD BISCUIT
SUJATA'S MILK RICE PORRIDGE
SUJATA'S MILK RICE PORRIDGE
SUJATA'S MILK RICE PORRIDGE
SUJATA'S MILK RICE PORRIDGE
Keeping a stock of Hana Celeb tissues, "so we don't waste them."

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

SIDE STORY TRANSLATION NOTES

Hana Celeb,
A popular brand of luxury moisturized tissues available in Japan. The name means "nose celebrity."

Sariel,
One of the archangels of God. While Sariel does not feature in any of the books in the Bible, he is given various roles and characteristics depending on the source text. For example, in the Book of Enoch, he is described as a fallen angel who lusts after human women.

...IN PREPARATION TO ENTER THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

THIS IS WHERE THE PIOUS SOULS WHO PERFORMED MANY GOOD DEEDS IN LIFE LINE UP...

THE PEARLY GATES...

...AND HIS BROTHER, ANDREW.

...ARE JESUS'S SENIOR DISCIPLE, PETER...

AND PROTECTING THESE GATES...

...

WELL, ANDREW?

IT'S MICHAEL.

THEIR HOLY DUTY...

IT'S ALL OVER, MY BROTHER...

DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME?

I SAID "MICHAEL."

ANDREW...

...IS SO BORING, THEY'VE RESORTED TO PLAYING SHIRITORI WORD GAMES...

YES, THERE IS! IT'S SO OBVIOUS, JUST USE YOUR HEAD!!

THERE'S NO ONE LEFT THAT STARTS WITH "L"...

SAINT YOUNG MEN

Side Story 2

Heavenly Solutions

AAAHHH...

...IT'S BEEN TURNED INTO A WHOLE SYSTEM, AND IT ONLY TAKES FIVE MINUTES...

BUT EVER SINCE *HE* CAME HERE...

YOU KNOW, IT USED TO TAKE LIKE THIRTY MINUTES TO CHECK THE LIST.

AND THEY DON'T NEED US TO KEEP ORDER AS THEY COME IN...

WE'VE ALREADY CHECKED THE NEW ENTRIES AGAINST THE REGISTER...

I'M SO BORED, IT FEELS LIKE MY TWITTER TIMELINE IS FROZEN...

OF COURSE THEY'RE ALL COURTEOUSLY WAIING IN LINE AND BEING SO POLITE.

THESE ARE PEOPLE GRANTED ENTRY TO HEAVEN.

THAT'S BECAUSE EVERYONE'S AT WORK.

YEAH, IT'S WILD. NO WONDER HE NAMED HIS COMPANY AFTER THE APPLE!

It's easy with the fruit of wisdom.

Instantly process the data of entrants to Heaven?

THAT WAS A STUNNING REVELATION, ON THE LEVEL OF ADAM REALIZING HE WAS NAKED.

NOTHING BUT PICTURES OF FOOD... YOU SHOULD CUT BACK ON THAT.

YOUR TIMELINE LOOKS LIKE AN OFFICE LADY'S THESE DAYS.

That's bad!

...I'VE PUT ON THREE KILOS...

NOW THAT WE ACTUALLY HAVE TIME FOR A PROPER LUNCH BREAK...

PEOPLE DON'T LINE UP AND BEHAVE ON THE TRIP INTO HELL.

BUT THAT'S A TOUGH JOB THEY HAVE...

THOSE SUPER-DELICIOUS PACKS, EVERY MEAL?

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...

HUH? BUT IT'S ALREADY CLEAN.

OKAY. LET ME BE A BIT MORE DIRECT.

...YOU SHOULD CLEAN UP YOUR DESK.

SINCE WE DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ELSE TO DO...

The ratios ...

THEY HAVE WEIDER ENERGY JELLY FOR EVERY MEAL.

CHECK OUT THE OFFICIAL TWITTER ACCOUNT OF THE GUARDS OF THE GATES OF HELL.

WEIRDERin ENERGY

VAAM SMOOTH SUPPORT

THAT'S WILD...

THIS IS INTERIOR DECORATING!!

YOU NEED TO THROW AWAY ALL THOSE COLLECTIBLE BOTTLE CAPS YOU'RE STOCKPILING.

RECEPTION

I GUESS THE FACT THAT THEY HAVEN'T THROWN THEM AWAY ALREADY IS A SIGN OF THEIR SAINTHOOD...

Oh, man...

They tried to tell you several times, but you wouldn't listen to them.

THE LIGHTNING BROTHERS COMPLAIN TO ME. THEY WANT ME TO MAKE YOU THROW THEM AWAY...

FOR ONE THING, WE WORK IN SHIFTS. YOU CAN'T JUST CLAIM THAT AS YOUR PERSONAL DESK.

PETER LOVES COLA, OF COURSE. BUT HE STILL CAN'T FORGET THE TASTE OF THAT ROASTED GREEN TEA BUDDHA-SAMA MADE FOR HIM.

What are you playing right now?!

YOU BETTER NOT BE DROPPING MONEY ON GACHA GAMES.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING THAT USES UP THIS MUCH ELECTRICITY?

I FEEL NERVOUS IF I CAN'T CHARGE MY DEVICES...

THE THING IS, ANDREW ...

KRSH

THEY'RE COMPLETELY MONOPO-LIZING THE DRAWER...

WELL, WHAT ABOUT ALL OF YOUR CHARGING CABLES?

You got any good weapons lately?

HUH? NO... I...

You're racking up the electric bill.

WAIT A SECOND... THEY CALL ME *PIKACHU?*

...THOSE SAME LIGHTNING BROTHERS ALSO TOLD ME TO "MAKE PIKACHU THROW AWAY HIS CHARGERS"...

IN FACT, I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK...

SO YOU ARE PAYING FOR SPINS!!

Nice attempt at a euphemism!

I'M... STOCKPILING MY FORTUNE... IN VALHALLA...

ANDREW AN XBOX PLAYER, OF COURSE. BUT HE ALSO LIKES CHILL, RELAXING GAMES LIKE *GUNMA'S AMBITION.*

WHEN WE HAD TIME TO BURN IN THE PAST, WE USED TO REACH OUT AND INTERACT WITH THE SOULS...

YEAH, EXACTLY...

AAH!

LOOK, I'M BORED! THERE'S NOTHING ELSE TO DO!!

WE SHOULD BE PROUD.

IT MIGHT BE LONELY FOR US, BUT THIS IS JUST THE POWER OF OUR TEACHER.

MURMUR

...THE SOULS ALL JUST STARE AT THE SCREENS INSTEAD ...

BUT EVER SINCE THEY STAR-TED AIRING THOSE PROMO VIDEOS ...

IT'S LIKE, WHAT ELSE CAN WE DO? WE CAN'T COMPETE WITH THAT.

THAT'S RIGHT. THESE LOST, CONFUSED SOULS NEED US...

ZZZH

WE HAVE ONE OTHER IMPORTANT NEW JOB...

TRUE...

PLUS, YOU DON'T HAVE TIME TO COMPLAIN ABOUT HAVING TOO MUCH TIME.

WE HAVE A VERY IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR YOU.

YOU'RE MEANT TO LAUGH AT THIS.

FEAR NOT!

OHHHH

#7 MURMUR

MURMUR #7

MURMUR #7...

I SHOULDN'T TELL HIM THAT THE FISHERMEN BROTHERS CALL HIM "GABA"...

HE STILL HASN'T THROWN THEM AWAY!!

Ugh, my blood sugar's dropping!!

MUNCH

MUNCH

THE NEXT DAY ...

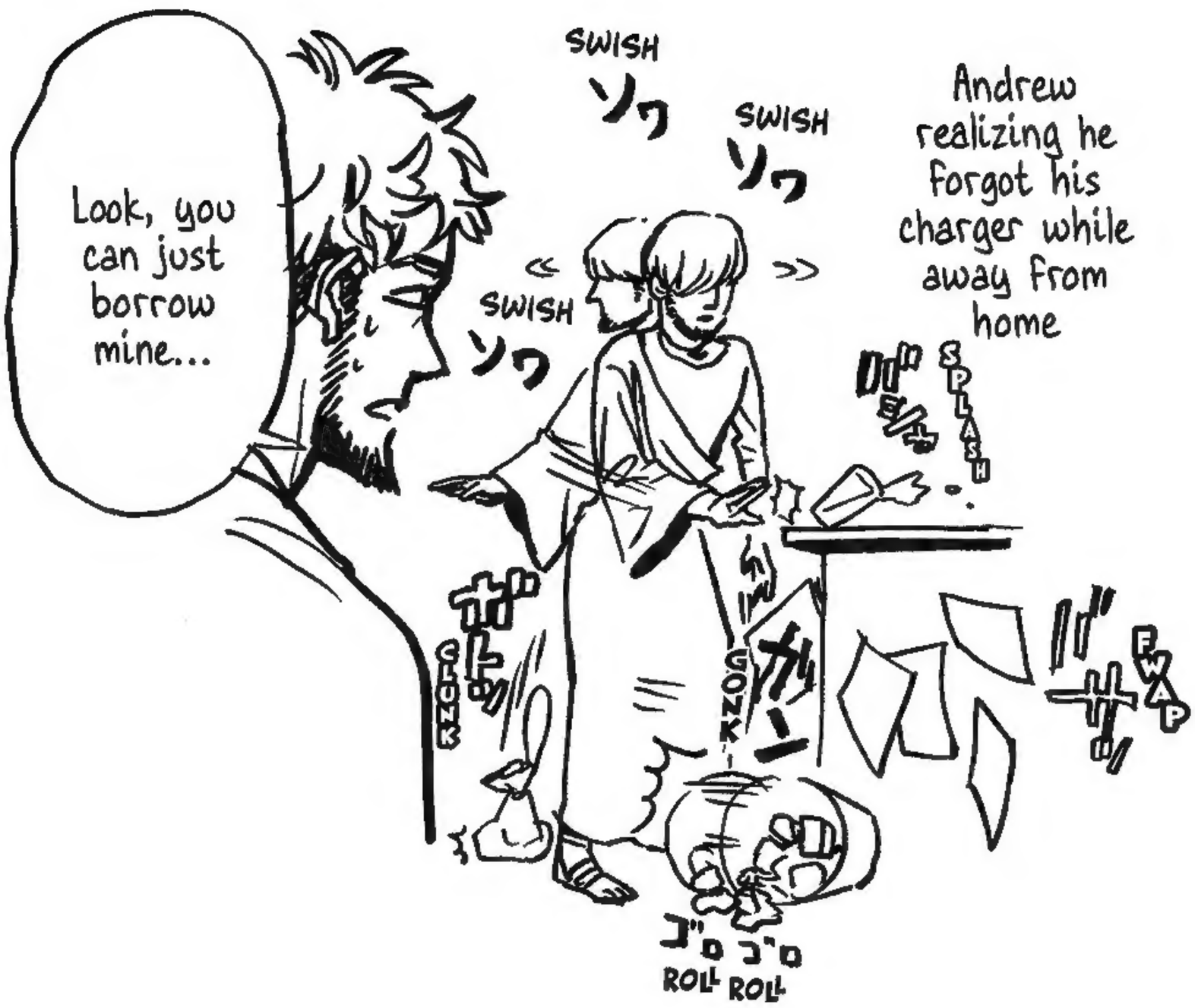
...

OMG LOL, IT'S NOT SOME TRAP THAT SENDS YOU TO HELL FOR LAUGHING AT HIM, I STG...

BWA HA HA HA!

AND NOW, CHECK OUT MY IMPRESSION OF JESUS-SAMA FROM THAT PROMO VIDEO!

SORRY FOR SPOOKING YOU LIKE THAT, LMAO...


Look, you can just borrow mine...
SWISH
SWISH
SWISH
Andrew realizing he forgot his charger while away from home
SPLASH
FWAP
ROLL ROLL

SAINT☆YOUNG MEN

SIDE STORY 2 TRANSLATION NOTES

Shiritori,
A Japanese word game that means "taking the end." Players must take turns naming things from a category without repeating anything, and the last letter (*kana*) of the previous word must be the first letter of the next. A player is out when they accidentally repeat a word, or say a word that ends with the solitary "n" *kana*, because it does not start any Japanese words.

Bottle caps,
These bottle cap toys are an actual set of *One Piece* collectibles sold in blind boxes back in 2002, known as "Bottle Cap Garage."

Gacha games,
Popular and lucrative mobile games that involve recruiting units from a very large pool of characters with randomized lottery spins. While players are almost always able to earn free spins by playing, the games are constructed in such a way to heavily incentivize paying for more and better spins to get that ultra-rare character.

Gunma's Ambition,
A tongue-in-cheek, low-key simulation mobile game that involves building up the overlooked and nondescript prefecture of Gunma into a world-dominating force, in a parody of military management sims like *Nobunaga's Ambition* or *Romance of the Three Kingdoms.*

Saint Young Men 9

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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